

## A History of Millburn Township »»»

by Marian Meisner

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## CHAPTER I. BEFORE THE BEGINNING MILLBURN IN GEOLOGICAL TIMES

The twelve square miles of earth which were bound together on March 20, 1857, by the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, to form a body politic, thenceforth to be known as the Township of Millburn, is a fractional part of the County of Essex, and a still smaller fragment of the State which gave it birth, but the political entity which came into being just a little more than a hundred years ago, was founded in a region many times a million years old, whose geological processes were important enough for scientists to have given to it its own name, "The Newark Group". In fact, one of the grand divisions of time, the Triassic period, of the Mesozoic Era, in which the bed rocks of Millburn and the Watchung systems were founded, is often parenthetically called "Newark Time". The peculiar rock formations of this area, sandstone, shale, and traprock are found, naturally, in a few places elsewhere, but no where more clearly recognizable than here.

Time for the geologists is divided into six eras. The first era began untold millions of years ago, but the Newark Period was only between 35 and 45 millions of years ago, comparatively recently say the geologists, with all sorts of authenticated evidence around for knowing eyes to see. The year 1976 is part of the Post Glacial or Recent Era, which began almost yesterday in the longterm thinking of the scientists, but the hills of Millburn Township are very old with their flowing, rounded tops worn down by the forces of erosion through the ages.

New Jersey, 166 miles long by 57 miles wide at its widest portion, is part of the Atlantic Slope of North America. The Atlantic Slope is divided into two parts, the Appalachian Province, and the Coastal Plain. The boundary between the two provinces runs obliquely across the State from Trenton through New Brunswick to Raritan Bay. The easternmost division of the Appalachian Province is the Piedmont Plateau or Plain, which slopes gently southeastward from the base of the Appalachian Mountains to sea level at Newark. The first Watchung Mountains rise from the Plain, achieving their greatest height of 879 feet near Paterson, and their lowest of about 450 feet near Somerville. Millburn has its own "mountain", a tree-covered slope rising from its bed of traprock to a height of 550 feet. This upward thrusting pile of rock brings to an abrupt end the gentle hills which have meandered on their southwesterly journey from the Palisades of the Hudson River. In part of the short time occupied by recorded history, the summit of the escarpment which marks that Millburn terminal has been known affectionately, if somewhat incorrectly, historically speaking, as "Washington Rock", and now tamed and civilized, bears a lookout from which an expansive view may be had of the plains which lie beneath it extending to the towers of Manhattan twenty miles away.



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Two miles southwest of Millburn, near Summit, the hills again move on their way. What great cataclysm of nature tore the gap in these traprock ridges is now only a matter of conjecture.

All of the State north of tie line drawn from Trenton to Newark Bay rests on solid bedrock with its covering of soil, varying from a few inches to many feet. In many hilly sections the bare rock appears at the surface.

It is not easy to realize that many of the materials forming the bedrock were brought in by the Gulf of Mexico, which in the Paleozoic Era flowed northward across the Continent, across Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New England. To appreciate such a fact one must project himself back to a time when our shore line extended many miles farther east than it does now, and between us and the Atlantic Ocean on the northwest and southeast rose two other large land masses ?the lost lands of Appalachia and Acadia, the greater part of which has long since been drowned by the waters of the Atlantic, but during those long ago years played an important part in the history of our land. They bore the brunt of the attack by the elements, and from them was washed tremendous quantities of materials to build a new world.

It seems in reading the pages of Geology that nothing in those dim and far off days was ever done moderately. When it rained, it was a deluge; when the sun shone, it shone so fiercely that the land became a desert; when the seas came in they moved ruthlessly across the earth; and when the cold came, the ice sheets moved upon the land hundreds of feet thick.

The whole geology of New Jersey is the story of a constant battle between land and water. Repeatedly large portions of the State and sometimes the whole State were submerged beneath the sea. Then in another cycle, the land rose high above the water only to be engulfed in another era. Sometimes the land gained a little advantage in the huge masses of mud and sand and other sediment left by the water. In other times, the water carried away all the softer and lighter materials built up by former seas. The water cut deep channels and wide valleys as it swirled across the plain.

Probably Millburn lay buried beneath the sea during most of the early eras until the Fourth ? the Triassic period of the Mesozoic Era when the characteristic rock of this region was formed. Some widespread earth movement affected the eastern region, as a result of which the old lands of Appalachia and Acadia were broadly uplifted, and a series of basins formed between them. The Piedmont Region formed one basin. In the basin, sand, gravel, and mud, washed down from the higher regions of the northwest and southeast, began to accumulate. Some of the sediments, particularly their red color, so characteristic of New Jersey now, indicate a hot, dry, climate where torrential rains fell at intervals carrying debris with them. Fossil remains, found in great

numbers, point to landlocked bays which rose and fell to various levels.

At last a time came when the basins were filled with sediment; the old lands to the southeast and northwest sank, never to rise again, and the waters disappeared.

The broad mud flats extended across the Piedmont Plain. Across these flats the giant reptiles, creatures of mud and slime, walked, leaving behind them forever imprinted, their many footprints, which are in some places nearby still perfectly preserved. Slabs measuring 1700 square feet from a quarry near Towaco in Morris County, show foot prints of 12 different species, and are now preserved in the Rutgers University Museum in New Brunswick. A restoration of the skeleton of a giant Hadrosaurus is mounted in the State Museum at Trenton.

The later period of deposit was also a time of great volcanic activity, and into the mass of drying mud, sand, and gravel volcanoes deep beneath the surface spewed their hot melted rock or lava, extruding it between the accumulated layers of mud and sand. In time, and under pressure, mud and sand become shale and sandstone, and the rapidly cooling lava, interbedded with those other materials, to form eventually thick sheets of shale, sandstone, and the dark blue or black basalt, known as traprock, which is found today in the quarries of this vicinity.

But the long days of creation were not completed. In that distant time, an ancient river, now thought to be the Hudson, diverted from its channel by a slow process of erosion, turned southeast across the buried Palisades ridge at Sparkhill, New York, and cut its raging course 475 feet below the present surface across New Jersey, and finally forced its way through a gap, the Hobart Gap, at Short Hills, to the sea. Later, during another cycle the river was diverted again, and forced to flow through its present channel. The only remnant of this ancient river found here now, is supposed to be Weequahic Lake in Newark, which finds its outlet the "Bound Creek" of the first settlers' deeds, through the meadows near Newark Airport to the bay.

In the Fifth, or Cenozoic Era, the great ice sheets moved down in three successive stages, pushing before them everything movable, filling depressions, digging valleys, and piling up for the people of Millburn Township, low mounds of accumulated gravel, rock, earth, stones, and other materials called generally "terminal moraine" which formed the short hills of the area. The southern extension of the ice is marked by a great mass of terminal moraine, which crosses the State in a curved line through Perth Amboy, Plainfield, Summit, Millburn, Morristown, Dover, Hackettstown and Belvidere. Sand, gravel, rock fragments, and boulders still mark the boundaries of the ice. Many large boulders left behind by the glacier may be found in the South Mountain Reservation today.

Temporary lakes were formed during the glacial epoch in several valleys. The largest of these lakes was Lake Passaic which occupied the entire Passaic River valley between the highlands on the north, Morristown on the west, Millburn on the east, and Moggy Hollow, near Bedminster to the south. The glacial drift closed the gap at Short Hills and other places, and as the air grew warmer and the ice began to melt, rivers which had drained through the gaps backed up and Lake Passaic came into being.

The lake was about 30 miles long, 8 to 10 miles wide, and was in places more than two hundred feet deep. Faint wavecut terraces and wavebuilt bars of waterworn gravel still mark the former shore line. When the ice front finally retreated enough, the Hobert Gap was closed forever with glacial drift, but a gap at Little Falls was laid bare, and the lake there was drained off and became extinct. The Great Swamp near New Vernon today is one of the few remaining evidences of Lake Passaic.

Dr. Henry Kummel, New Jersey State Geologist, writing in "A History of the City of Newark" by Frank Urquhart and others, says:

"The ice field, mighty sculptor that it was, wrought marvelous changes in its passage. It hewed and hacked, ploughed and gashed, tore and twisted, broke down and built up, until the whole surface of the earth was made over. It was rough treatment, but to it we owe the natural beauties of upper New Jersey today."

Many animals now extinct inhabited New Jersey during glacial and early postglacial times. Chief of these was the mastodon which probably followed the retreating ice northward. The remains of 19 individuals of the species have been reported in the State. Several were found between Hackettstown and Vienna; recently one was found near Stockholm; a good skeleton at Rutgers was recovered near Salem, a tooth almost two inches long was found near Belleville, and a portion of a skull was found near Westfield.

The hairy mammoth was also here, and the Greenland reindeer, the Arctic walrus, remains of the Canadian elk, two species of an extinct horse, an extinct moose, and a peccary have been found in New Jersey.

There is some evidence that man may have been here before the disappearance of the mastodon. At Trenton in glacial gravel, implements of chipped stone were found by Dr. Charles C. Abbott in 1875. These tools are much older than the tools of the modern Indian, the latter being found in soil layers much higher than the gravels. Traces of primitive man are found in many places in the world below the glacial drift, so that the findings at Trenton would seem to link New Jersey's very earliest inhabitants with his fellow



creatures elsewhere.

Dr. Abbott, the principal authority of the Stone Age in New Jersey, in his report in 1877 to the Peabody museum of Harvard, wrote:

"There is much to be said of the theory that the Eskimoes of the north are the lineal descendants of the preglacial men whose implements are found in New Jersey and elsewhere."

William Nelson, in his "Indians of New Jersey" after quoting Dr. Abbott's report above mentioned, says:

"These tools found in the Trenton gravels are much more primitive than the implements of the people Columbus found here. Did they retreat with the glacier before the first white man had set foot on our shore? It may be that he has left unsuspected traces behind him, and that the expert will some day find in the Valley of the Passaic relics of that forgotten race."

Millburn lies in the Passaic Valley and perhaps someday beneath its deposits of terminal moraine discoveries may shed new light on the very earliest inhabitants.

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## CHAPTER II. THE FIRST INHABITANTS OF MILLBURN

When the work of creation was finally finished; when the land was dry and fertile; the seasons set in the slow revolution of their courses, and The living creatures moving in their endless cycles of birth and death, then the earth must have been deemed ready for the coming of man.

The primitive creatures who followed the glaciers and dropped their crude pointed stones as they disappeared, were wanderers, and evidently made no attempt at settlement, but a few thousand years ago, a band of men of different thought appeared one day seeking new hunting grounds in the land of the Winaki. We know the land as the State of New Jersey.

Where did this new man come from?small in numbers, weak against the white man's civilization, yet strong enough to have impressed his ways and his strange language insistently upon our culture? It seems always to have been the pattern of life in these United States that no human life evolved here, but every man came from far away to find a home here. The Indian is now considered by many anthropologists to have been no exception to this rule. One of the few legends of his coming taken from his own history, was found in the 18th century by a French scientist, Constantine Samuel Rafinesque. The account was a pictograph, drawn on birch bark, and the Indians called it "Walam Olum." Its interpretation was first published by Rafinesque in "The American Nations Linapi Annals."

According to the Walam Olum, the Lenape Indians came here after a long journey taking many years, over a glassy sea, into the region of the Caves, across the land of the buffalo, to a great water where the tribe separated. One branch went north into Canada, the other turned southeast. The latter conquered the Snakes (the Iroquis); they crossed the Mississippi, moved through the grass lands of the valley, over hills, and finally to a Falls. Those who crossed the Falls entered the land of the Winaki.

The interpretation identifies the glassy sea as Bering Strait, the land of the caves as the Rocky Mountains, the great water as Lake Superior. After crossing the Mississippi they continued their journey until finally they reached the falls of the Delaware at the head of tide water near Trenton. The first emigrants had found a resting place at last.

To the first settlers in Millburn the Indian must have been an object of great interest. By 1709 not too many natives were left in this part of the State, and one can imagine that the few who passed along the Minisink Trail, which the settlers soon widened for their cart roads, were regarded with more curiosity



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than fear or suspicion. Occasionally they were annoying as they were evidently fascinated by the cultivated gardens of the colonists and could not always resist the temptation of stealing some of the ripening products.

However, long before the Denmans or Parsils or Parkhursts or others arrived here, the Millburn region belonged to the Indians and they knew it well. No record has as yet come to light of any permanent encampment here, but it was undoubtedly a fertile spot for fishing and hunting. The recent findings, in September, 1956, of a burial ground in East Hanover, near the Swinefield bridge, may change the historian's idea of Indian life in this vicinity.

Whether he had a village here or not, the land of the short hills was well known to him, as the great Minisink Trail, his principal highway, which criss-crossed Millburn in many places. The New Jersey Indians were the Lenapes of the Minsi tribe of the great Algonquin clan. The Minsi totem was the wolf. They had their tribal headquarters on Minisink Island, in the Delaware River, at the tip of northern New Jersey, about four miles south of Milford, Pennsylvania. In their journeys from Minisink Island to the salt water they beat into the earth the pathway which today forms the basis of many of our highways and railroad beds.

From an old map among the "Alexander" papers in the possession of the New York Historical Society, and reproduced many times in New Jersey history, the route of the path may be reconstructed. After leaving the Island the trail passed through Newton, crossed over to Iliff's Pond, then east of Long Pond and to Andover. From Andover the route came by Cranberry Lake and generally over the present highway to Stanhope, to Landing, Lake Hopatcong, and north of Rockaway to Denville. At Denville the trail is supposed to have divided, one branch going to Morristown, and the other to Parsippany, Black Meadows, Hanover, Livingston, and finally to Millburn, probably coming over White Oak Ridge Road to Parsonage Hill Road, to Old Short Hills Road, and the present center of Millburn.

The other branch from Morristown generally followed the present Morris Turnpike Road, forded the Passaic River at the spot long known as "Minisink Crossing" where John Day built a bridge in 1747. The site of Day's bridge is the present bridge over the river on the Morris Turnpike between Summit and Chatham, not far from Altman's store. After crossing the Passaic the Trail came into Millburn Center, roughly over Hobart Avenue or what was to become the roadbed of the Lackawanna Railroad, to join the other branch.

Millburn center was the crossroads of the primitive world. Indians always followed the easiest course. They never climbed a mountain if it were possible to skirt it, and while they followed a river, if the bank were high and dry, they avoided swampy ground. As a result, their roads were seldom straight, but zigzagged and curved to suit the terrain. They also laid out their walks to take

advantage of fishing, hunting, and good food supplies along the way. In many places the edges of the terminal moraine formed an ideal gravel path for their purposes.

At Millburn center the two branches crossed, as mentioned, one continuing down main Street, following the west branch of the Rahway River, and then through the Rahway River valley, to the Minsi's territory in the Navesink region of the Atlantic shore. Each tribe was allocated its own portion of the shore for fishing and shellfish digging.

The other trail from Millburn turned east down (present) Millburn Avenue to the salt bays at Newark. These two branches formed the main trail, but other branches struck out in other directions. Notches in the mountains such as the present South Orange Avenue, Eagle Rock Avenue, Northfield Road, the Mount Pleasant Avenue were the Indian trails to other parts of the territory.

Besides the paths, the Indian used waterways to travel and in his canoe he was able to make swift and fairly easy voyages. It must be remembered that in general all water levels were much higher than they are now. The water table had not yet been seriously lowered by the demands of people for water. Then, too, even in our own community many streams have been drained or put underground in conduits or pipes. Canoe Brook, as we know it now, is a tiny rivulet, too small in most places to float a toy ship, but it is recorded that at one time Indians built canoes on its banks, using the fine supply of ash trees growing nearby. In the Spring when the floods or freshets came, the stream became broad and deep and the canoes were easily paddled to the Passaic River, then down to Little Falls, where they had to be carried around the Passaic Falls, and then continued their journey again by water to the sea. The sea was very important to the Indian. Not only was it a source of a wonderful food supply, but it furnished shell; first for decorations and later for wampum, and fish for fertilizing crops. The Lenapes were also compelled to make a yearly journey up the Hudson to Albany to deliver shellfish to the Mohawks as a tribute to maintain the peace.

It is unfortunate that we have no firsthand scientific study of the American Indian such as anthropologists have made of native people in the South Sea Islands and elsewhere, but the first colonists were too busy, understandably, with their own lives to spend time observing the natives, and few men equipped with knowledge for such a study knew of the existence of such a fertile field for the observation of a different race.

To most settlers, the Indian was a nuisance to be pushed out of the way so that the business of colonization could progress. However, enough men were superficially interested in the strange creatures to write letters or other accounts about them, so that we can form some picture of their appearance and ways. Several Dutch manuscripts, written by missionaries and traders, a

few English letters, and William Penn's thirty page account, furnish glimpses into the customs of the first inhabitants. The information contained in the manuscripts has been made available to us in recent years chiefly through the painstaking work of two men, William Nelson, whose "The Indians of New Jersey" published in 1894, dips into these sources, and more recently Dr. Charles A. Philhower, Superintendent of Schools of Westfield, New Jersey, who has made the New Jersey Indian his life interest.

William Penn was positive he had discovered in the American Indian one of the ten lost tribes of Israel and attempted to fit the red man into the old Testament tradition.

Perhaps the earliest account of the New Jersey Indian is contained in a report made by John Verrazzano sailing a French ship which made a landing at some unidentified place along our coast in 1603. His party was greeted by a group of natives who impressed him very much with their friendliness and good looks. His report reads in part:

"...they came so neare us that we cast them certaine bells and glasses and many toyes which when they had received them they looked at them with laughing, and came without feare aboard our ship. There were amongst these people two kings of so goodly stature and shape as is possible to declare..."

The report goes on to say they were friendly and kind and as handsome as many of the men of Europe.

From the earliest Dutch accounts, too, we learned that the men were fine looking fellows, dark-eyed, broadshouldered, and fairly tall. They wore their hair long, although sometimes they wore only a scalp lock. Their faces were smooth, the beard being plucked rather than shaved. They tattooed their bodies with hideous representations of animals and imaginary creatures. They were modest, quick witted, loyal to their friends, but extremely treacherous to their enemies. Their clothing was scanty in summer, but they sometimes wore an apronlike garment about their loins. In winter they covered themselves with skins worn furside in, fashioned into long blanketlike robes which they wrapped around their bodies. They bound their feet in bear or elkskin.

The women dressed differently. Skirts of feathers, particularly turkey, were commonly worn. They wore their hair in long braids and often twined bands of deer hair, dyed a bright color around their heads. Shell pieces were worn about the neck, ears, arms, and ankles for decorations, and they painted their faces.

This habit of painted faces shocked some of the first white men. In his book, "The New and Unknown World" by Arnoldus Montanus, published in Amsterdam in 1671, Montanus writes,

"The women, not having the advantage of Christian training, and being very much less wise than their white sisters, were wont to paint their faces; and in general they adorned themselves more than did men, for a proud squaw would sometimes display her charms set off by a petticoat ornamented with beads to the value of one hundred dollars or more."

The latter, of course, is the white man's valuation. The women did the scanty housekeeping, ploughed the fields, planted the seed, cultivated the crops, gathered and carried the wood, did the cooking, and attended to the children. They bore their children easily. After birth they immediately wrapped them in a cloth and strapped them to a board slightly larger than the child's body. Board and child were then swaddled in more skins or cloth. The mothers carried them on their backs, or hung them on pegs or branches when working. In order to harden them, they frequently dipped them into cold water, no matter what the temperature. (William Penn, "Letter to Free Society of Traders," 1683.)

The house in this region was not a tepee, but was a shelter twice as long as it was wide. It was made by setting two rows of green sapling poles about six feet tall, in the ground. The rows were spaced 15 feet apart, and about 30 feet in length. The saplings were then bent to form an arched roof and fastened together and covered with bark, twigs, leaves, stalks, and even earth. A low doorway at one end was the only entrance. Inside in the middle was the fireplace with a hole in the roof above to let out the smoke. Along the sides of the house were long benchlike elevations on which the families sat or slept. In a typical village six to twelve of these huts, surrounded by a palisade fence, comprised the home of a clan. A major encampment, such as this, was located on Minisink Island. Several branches of one family might occupy each hut.

Two Dutch missionaries, Jasper Dankers and Peter Sluyter, in 1679/1680, made a journey across New Jersey, travelling on the Assumpink Trail which led from Trenton to the main Minisink Trail at or near Millburn, and wrote about the Indians with whom they spent their time,

"On the way," they wrote, "while we were in the house (an Indian house at Millstone (or wapawog), "a naked child fell from its mother's lap and received a cut on its head. Whereupon all who sat around the fire and belonged to the household, began to cry, husband, wife, young and old, and screamed more than the child, as if they themselves had broken their arms and legs. In another corner of the hut there sat around a fire another household whose faces were entirely blackened, who observed a gloomy silence, and looked very singular. They were in mourning for a deceased friend."

This glimpse gives a rather different picture than the unemotional, stoical Indian we have learned to accept. His stoicism was evidently a mask he wore toward his enemies.

Another account of the personal habits of the Indian is contained in "A Two Years Journey in New York" by Charles Wooley, published in London in 1701. Mr. Wooley described their huts, much as outlined above, and their ways of life. He says that they preserved their skins smooth by anointing them with the

"oyl of fishes, the fat of eagles, and the grease of rackoons, which they hold in the summer the best antidote to keep their skins from blistering by the scorching sun and their best armour against the musketto .. and stopper of the pores of their bodies against the winter's cold."

The Lenape's food consisted of meat, fish, corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, and melons, sometimes, when food was scarce, snakes, fox, skunks, and the like. Meat and fish were broiled or boiled. Corn was ground or pounded into meal. Oysters, clams, and other sea food were dried and smoked. Soup or porridge, which the settlers named "mush" was often served. Besides these foods, they also used roots of various kinds, such as bindweed, Indian turnips, ground nuts, sassafras, slippery elm, dock, and poke; mint, watercress, nuts, grapes, plums, apples, persimmons, and May apples.

Tobacco was used only in ceremonials, and pipes were made out of clay and corncobs. The first pipes had no bowls, but were tubes. The Indians had no alcoholic liquors, and no word to express drunkenness, as it was unknown to them.

Their pottery was fired, but not glazed. With the clay they often mixed flint, coal, shells, soapstone, or cedar chips. it was always decorated with various combinations of straight lines, no curves were used, and the bottoms were often eggshaped so that they could be set in the sand and fires built around them.

The Indians knew no God of love, but a great spirit, "Manit'to" who had to be constantly placated. Beyond the grave was a happy hunting ground. However, the Indians did not understand death. Health was the normal condition, and when one became ill or died it was because of an evil spirit. The doctor when sent for came dressed in bearskin, shaking a stone-filled gourd, howling, roaring, and crying. The more noise and more hideous faces he could make, the sooner the bad spirit would be frightened and leave the patient's body. If the doctor did not succeed, he did not consider he was to blame, but the patient was at fault. When all finally failed, and the man died, he was dressed in his best clothes, his face painted, and he was buried in a sitting position. His friends blackened their faces, but the chief mourners were the women of his family. A widow mourned a year, but the man did not mourn for his wife for any fixed period. However, if he wished to remarry he had to make an offering to the kindred of the deceased wife.

Boys and girls learned to count on their fingers, to hunt, swim, weave, and compute time. The old men chipped arrow heads, made wooden spoons, tools, traps, pikes, and mats.

Time was reckoned by distance, and the year was reckoned by seed time. The names of the month, starting with our January were, Squirrel Month, Frog Month, Shad Month, Spring Month, Summer Begins month, Summer Month, Hot Month, Deer Month, Fall 12.

Month, Vermin Month, Snow Month and Cold Month.

Values were figured in skins, feathers, and wampum. Wampum comes from the Algonquin word "Wampumpeak" a word for beads made of wood or shell. The Indians used it mostly for decoration, or as gifts in ceremonials. "Wampi" means white beads, "Ompeak", that which pays tribute. Both white and black beads of wood or shell, were used, the black being the more valuable. The colonists early appreciated the value the Indians placed on shell wampum and began at once to make a superior product of their own. The Indian was pleased with the white man's wampum and sought to exchange it for skins and other goods. The small polished pieces had holes drilled in the center and were strung on string about 12 inches in length. These were, in turn, tied in bundles or sheaves. Various values were placed on wampum and the market fluctuated much as the stock market does today. A one-foot string was at one time worth 12 cents. A fathom, 11 feet 3 inches long, was priced anywhere from \$1.03 to \$2.00. The value was more often reckoned in skins or commodities than in actual cash.

Dyes were discovered and used for their clothing and decorations. Hickory bark gave yellow; indigo, blue; brown from walnut; red from bloodroot or Oswego tea (beebalm); purple from Pokeberry.

The Indian disappeared rapidly when the colonists moved in. Disease, the white man's alcohol, against which the Indian had no immunity, and even starvation thinned his ranks. Fortunately for the colonists, the Lenape Indian was rather meek and minded his own business, and there are only a few stories of serious massacres by Indians in New Jersey, although it is sad to say the reverse situation was not unknown. In 1643 a senseless killing of about 80 Indian men, women, and children was perpetrated at Paulus Hook (Jersey City) by the Dutch and for many years thereafter no white man dared to venture alone into the interior. The Lenape, in the main, was not vicious, and had been many years before reduced to a subjective state by the constant beatings he took from the warlike Mohawks and Iroquois. Another theory, advanced by Professor Ellsworth Huntington, ("The Red Man's Continent," Yale University Press, 1919), is that a people which is sufficiently advanced in



civilization to undertake agriculture, lose its fighting skills, and the Lenapes were good farmers. They had hoes made from conch shells and bones, and cleared the land by girdling, and then burning the trees. When the fields were finally exhausted they would move on to another site, and begin all over again.

Whatever the reason so few Indians remained here, that in 1758 an Indian reservation was set up in New Jersey in the place still called "Indian Mills". Most of the others who did not go to the Reservation moved to Ohio, and eventually journeyed on to Canada, Michigan, Oklahoma, and other parts of the West. "Indian Ann" was the last real Indian in New Jersey. Her father had returned from the West and settled near Mount Holly where he died. His daughter, Ann, died in 1894. Traceable descendants of the New Jersey Lenapes were located in Kansas not too many years ago.

Many Indian relics have been found in and near Millburn. Arrow heads are common and parts of tools and pottery are still being unearthed. The Indian's language has become so intermingled with our own that one must stop to remember which words have come through our Indian inheritance. A few of them are easily recognizable, if one gives thought to them ? sassafras, squaw, squash, succotash, toboggan, tomahawk, wampum, wigwam, moose, moccasin, papoose, powwow, quahog, sachem, sagamore, hub-bub, hominy, samp, and skunk, are only a few. So many of our towns, cities, and rivers have Indian names that a long list of familiar place names could be compiled. His trails are our superhighways and much of his peculiarly American food has become staples of our diet. The red man crosses Millburn center no more on his journeys to the sea, but his presence has become part of our own heritage and tradition. At least New Jersey does not have on its conscience a history of great brutality in its treatment of the native, but as we shall see in our next chapters, considering the times in which they lived, the first settlers of Elizabethtown and New Ark in which Millburn was then included, met them honestly and decently, and earned their gratitude.

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## CHAPTER III. THE COUNTRY BEFORE SETTLEMENT

To the historian the past is also the present, and the two are forever blended. Nevertheless, to know the present he must sometimes separate it from the past and place the two together side by side, and in the comparison find the living history.

Today, Millburn Township, which in 1957 celebrated its first centennial as a municipality of the State of New Jersey, in the United States of America. It is the residence of 18,800 people. Just a short time ago, historically speaking, it was a spot in the wilderness, unknown except to the Indian and the wild animal. If one could by the whisk of a hand cause to vanish all the streets, the stores, the schools, the homes, the churches, the people and all their implements, and if in the whisk of the hand the country were restored to the way it was, in, let us say, the year 1609, what would it have been like? One can only see with the eyes of the mind.

On September 3, 1609, Henry Hudson sailing his "Half Moon", still searching for a northwest passage, dropped anchor near Sandy Hook. He spent a few days exploring the country and made a journey of a short distance into what is now Monmouth or Union County. His Journal established this fact. A copy is printed into the proceedings of the New York Historical Society. It was kept by a man named Juet.

Hudson and his men, too, just as Verrazzano had in 1523, thought the natives friendly and generous. The Indians gave them tobacco and maize and Hudson gave them knives and beads.

"The Country", Juet wrote, "is full of great and tall oakes."

This, as far as known, is probably the very first sentence written describing the nearby countryside ? a land of great, tall oak trees.

The next day Hudson's party went up into the woods and saw "great store of goodly Oakes, and some Currants."

On Sunday, the 6th, John Coleman and four other men from the ship were sent out in a boat to explore the narrows. Sailing through the Narrows they found, according to Mr. Juet,

"very good riding for ships; and a narrow River to the westward between two llands. The lands were as pleasant with Grasse and Floweres and Goodly Trees as ever they had seene, and very sweet smells came from them. So



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they went in two leagues and saw an open Sea, and returned."

The narrow river was the Kill between Staten Island and New Jersey, and the open sea was Newark Bay. These five were, therefore, the first discoverers of the land on which Elizabeth and Newark would one day stand, and one must keep in mind that Millburn was part of both of these settlements.

Unfortunately, as an aside to our story, John Coleman was later that day slain by an arrow from one of the natives. No reason is given for this action by a people whose friendliness was otherwise described in such glowing terms.

Juet's description gives the first intimation of how the country must have looked to one who gazed upon the virgin wilderness for the first time. With a little imagination one can reconstruct the picture.

It was probably one of our typically beautiful September mornings, sunny, pleasantly warm, the top of each ripple in the bay reflecting the sun. We can presume that a party would not have been sent ashore in a small boat in a strange country in bad weather. In the whole expanse of sea only one small vessel, the full-rigged sailing ship, the "Half Moon" rode at anchor. Perhaps from the deck of the ship it was possible to see the ridges of First and Second Mountain rising above the forests and even the curious break where the end of South Mountain tumbles into the plain. Early that morning a small boat manned by five sailors rowed from the Half Moon into a cove, thought to be near the future settlement of Elizabethtown.

The first thing the sailors noticed were the goodly trees, and particularly the tall oaks. Sailors would notice tall trees, ever conscious as they were of the masts of their ships. When they pulled their boat up on the shore they stepped into rich grass with flowers growing everywhere. One does not expect sailors to be flower conscious, so no attempt was made to name the varieties they saw, but the flowers must have been abundant to have been one of the first things recorded. Then the sweet smells from the land attracted their attention. In fact, the pleasant odor must have been very persistent for several later voyagers also recorded that the country could be smelled some distance out at sea ? no smog, no gasoline, no carbon monoxide ? only the smells of "grasse and floweres and goodly trees."

Incidentally, the English claimed title to the American continent by reason of Hudson's voyages, although the ship was Dutch and he was sailing for a Dutch company. Their argument was that he was an English subject, and, therefore, anything he explored belonged to England. This reasoning is worked just as well in reverse when they claimed the continent by reason of Cabot's voyages in 1498, although Cabot was an Italian citizen. But he was sailing an English ship, they argued, and, therefore, whatever he saw belonged to England. It

was something like the old game of "Heads I win; Tails you lose."

Cabot had coasted along the eastern shore of the North American continent and according to the latitude mentioned in his log, must have been close to New Jersey, but no record remains as to whether he landed or not, so that Henry Hudson's men and the martyred Coleman must remain as the first to explore the Jersey countryside.

John Verrazzano's visit to the shores of New Jersey in 1603 was only a landing, and no attempt was made to go any farther. He described the place of his landing as having steep hills, a river, and an eight-foot tide in the river. No one has decided where that spot might be.

By 1613 the Dutch had made a settlement in Manhattan and regularly sent out ships to explore the waterways and adjacent land, and to bring back furs, hides, and meat. No attempt was then made to settle in the "howling wilderness" of the land bordering on the "Achter Koll", the Dutch name for Newark Bay, a name now preserved as the "Arthur Kill" one of the waters separating Staten Island from New Jersey.

However, so many glowing descriptions had reached Manhattan by 1651 that the Hon. Cornelis Van Werckhoven of Utrecht informed the Amsterdam Chamber of his desire to form a kind of feudal colony or manor in those parts, and he was accordingly handed a deed from the Proprietors of New Amsterdam covering all the land, described in archaic language, but which transposed into every day English meant all the land, from the Raritan River to the Passaic River, and up the Passaic River to the very head of it, and so on indefinitely. It might, therefore, be considered that as Millburn lies both east and south of, and within two sides of the Passaic River, the Hon. Van Werckhoven was Millburn's first owner.

Van Werckhoven's ownership was short lived and he never took possession. Objection was made to his greediness as he also had acquired a good part of Long Island, and he finally had to decide on only one. He chose Long Island, and started the colony of New Utrecht, but that, as they say in the story books, is another tale. His ownership of his New Jersey lands reverted to the Dutch Proprietors.

But the Dutch Government, while not approving Mr. Van Werckhoven's exclusive ownership, was nevertheless interested in getting colonies established all over New Jersey in order to protect her claim to the territory. Holland and England were in one of their interminable wars and Holland believed that possession was nine points of the law. It was not easy. The senseless massacre of the Indians by the Dutch at Paulus Hook (Jersey City) in 1643, and the Indian retaliation in 1655, when they killed many colonists at

Hoboken and Staten Island, struck terror into the hearts of colonists and sent other countless refugees streaming into the safety of New Netherlands.

In 1661 the Dutch Government in another attempt to get people to move into the country sent out a glowing description to entice would-be settlers.

"It is under the best clymate in the whole world; seed may be thrown into the ground, except six weekes, all the yere long; there are five sorts of grapes which are very good and grow here naturally, with diverse other fruits .. the land very fertile .. here groweth tobacco very good, it naturally abounds with severall sorts of dyes, furs of all sorts been had of the natives very reasonable; stores of saltpeter, marvelous plenty in all kinds of food, excellent venison, elkes very great and large; all kinds of land and sea foule that are naturally in Europe are heere in great plenty with severall other sorte yet Europe doth not enjoy; the sea and rivers abounding with excellent fat and wholesome fish which are heere in great plenty. The mountenouse part of the country stored with severall sorts of mineralls; great profit to bee derived from traffique with the natives (who are naturally a mild people, very capable, and by the grace of God to be drawne out of their blind ignorance to the saving light by Jesus Christ)..."

Edwin P. Hatfield in his history of the City of Elizabeth (1868) comments that while this description was designed to cover the whole of New Jersey between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers, it was peculiarly applicable to the region bordering on Newark Bay and its southern estuary.

Reading this description in Millburn, in 1957, and no matter how much one loves his hometown, one is forced to concede a slight exaggeration. Our climate may be fair, but "the best clymate in the whole world with only six weeks of winter" would seem to indicate that the copy writer in the advertising agency of 1661 could teach something to the account executive of 1957.

But the Dutchmen gave Essex and Union Counties a wide berth, and by 1664 the long Dutch-English wars came to an end with the negotiated surrender of the Dutch, and no further efforts were made by the Dutch to establish colonies in this region.

The next time we have any record of a white man's looking down on us with appreciative eyes was sometime after 1666 when Robert Treat had established his company in New Ark. Explorers were sent out frequently from New Ark to look over the back country, and it appears that

"some adventurous spirit climbed the summit of the mountain (west of Orange) and surveyed the land on the east side of the Passaic River which lay at his feet. He returned to New Ark and reported to the town meeting what he had

seen, describing the beautiful land and dilating on the fertility of the soil." ("The Passaic Valley" by John Whitehead).

Some part of that beautiful and fertile land could well have been the present Millburn which lies directly south and east of the Passaic River.

It remained, however, for Daniel Denton, one of the English settlers of Elizabethtown from Connecticut, to write the most glowing description of all. Reporting on his journeys through the country behind New Ark and Elizabethtown in 1670, Mr. Denton says, "I must say," begins Denton, "and say truly that if there be any terrestrial happiness to be had for people of all ranks especially of an inferior rank, it must certainly Where. Here anyone might furnish himself with land and live rent free, yea, with such a quantity of land that he may unary himself with walking over his fields of Corn and all sorts of Grain, and let his stock of Cattel amount to some hundreds, he need not fear their want of pasture in the Summer or Fodder in the Winter, the Woods affording sufficient supply.

"For the summer Season, where you have grass as high as a man's knees, nay, as high as his waste, interlaced with Pea-vines and other weeks that cattel much delight in, as much as a man can pass through; and these woods every mile or half mile are furnished with fresh ponds, brooks, or rivers where all sorts of Cattel during the heat of the day, do quench their thirst and cool themselves; these brooks and rivers being invironed on each side with several sorts of trees and Grape vines, the vines, Arborlike, interchanging places and crossing these rivers, does shed and shelter them from the scorching beams of old Sol's fiery influence.

"And how prodigal, if I may say so, hath nature been to furnish the Countrey with all sorts of wilde Bestes and Fowles which everyone hath an interest in, and may hunt at his pleasure; Where besides the pleasure in hunting he may furnish his house with excellent fat Venison, Turkeys, Geese, Heath Hens, Cranes, Swans, Ducks, Pidgeons, and the like; and wearied with this, he may go where the Rivers are so furnished, that he may supply himself with Fish before he can leave off the Recreation;

"Where besides the sweetness of the Air the Countrey itself sends forth such a fragrant smell, that it may be perceived at sea before they make the Land; Where no evil fog of vapour doth no sooner appear but a northwest or westerly winde doth immediately dissolve it, and drive it away. I must needs say, that if there be any terrestrial Canaan 'tis surely here, where the Land floweth with milk and honey."

After that buildup, one wonders why the people did not swarm in droves into the back country, where heaven was found on earth.

However, the search for our own twelve-square miles of earth, and how it looked in its primitive beauty, is being narrowed. Denton must have passed through here because of his references to the many woodland streams. Nowhere else in the section of New Jersey close to Elizabeth could one have found woods so abundantly furnished with fresh ponds, brooks, and rivers, as here.

Up until now few specific details have been given as to what kind of goodly trees and wilde bestes inhabited the land. Dr. Stephen Wickes, writing in his "History of the Oranges", published in 1894, supplies some of the missing details. All through the country surrounding the Oranges, he says, and all over First Mountain, bears, wolves, panthers, elk, deer, foxes, raccoons, opossums, and smaller animals roved. Rattlesnakes and copperheads abounded. In the forests grew red, black, white, and pin oaks, chestnut, elm, beech, birch, both black and white, and both varieties of ash, tulip, maple, including sugar maple from which molasses was made, bitter and sweet sycamore, wild cherry, dogwood, and persimmon. No variety of pine was indigenous here. White clover was native, but red clover was introduced after settlement. Raspberries, currants, peaches, apples, quince, strawberries, grapes, plums, mulberries, and persimmons were found and later were brought into cultivation. The earth was, indeed, lavish in its bounty, and the rich soil proved generous in its rewards for good husbandry.

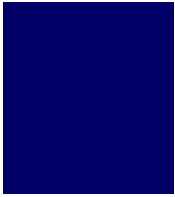
Thus, we have attempted to show in this chapter how it was at the beginning, roughly 300 years ago, when the stillness of the forest was only broken by the song of a bird, the cry of a wild animal, or the occasional padding of Indian feet down his well-worn trails.

From everything we have read, and in spite of exaggerations, we know this little unknown world was beautiful, a natural paradise of wood and stream, wild flowers and fruits, wild creatures of every kind. The country lay poised and ready to fulfill its destiny. One of the Thirteen Colonies which would one day create the United States of America was about to be born.

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## CHAPTER IV. THE FIRST ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS IN NEW JERSEY

In the beginning, New Jersey, unlike New England and Virginia, was not a British colony. If the Swedish government had been stronger, New Jersey might have belonged to Sweden, but the few Swedish settlements along the Delaware River never grew strong enough to overcome the Dutch claim.

Holland, with its powerful New York government, might have taken over, but with its constant wars with England and the reluctance of its common people to move to the wilderness, it never widened its sphere of influence much beyond the banks of the Hudson and Hackensack Rivers, with a few scattered homes along the Raritan, Passaic, and Delaware Rivers, although for nine years, from 1655 to 1664, New Jersey was absolutely under Dutch control. England, at home, was going through a period of crisis ? a civil war had deposed and beheaded a king, and the Cromwells ruled the Commonwealth for several years. Another turn of events restored the monarchy, and Charles II came to the throne. Eyes once more turned to America with its promise of an expanded imperialism and possibly great wealth to accrue to the royal government. Colonel Richard Nicholls and 300 men were dispatched to drive out the Dutch from New Netherlands, but the Dutch thereupon entered into a negotiated surrender and their power in North America, except for a short interlude in 1673, passed into history.

This brief resume is necessary in order to fill in the background of the first English settlements in New Jersey, in Elizabeth and Newark, out of which grew the Millburn settlement. The facts of history rest on so many ifs?if the Swedes had been stronger, if the Dutch had not done thus and so, if Cromwell had prevailed, who knows what would now be our native tongue, or whether there would have been a United States of America. Someone now, perhaps, instead of writing the history of Millburn, would be writing the history of Molendam, New Holland, or some such place. A king has a bad breakfast; he snarls at his prime minister, and the royal indigestion changes the lives of unborn generations.

However, the House of Stuart did return to the throne, Charles II did rule, and the history of a small town in the United States of America, flows in its chartered course.

Charles II wanted to do something nice for his younger brother, James, Duke of York. What more generous gesture could be made therefore, than to deed him a great big piece of real estate, thousands of square miles, in an unknown wilderness! On March 12, 1664, he granted to James a large tract in New England, practically all of Maine, and a good portion of Canada, and also more important to us, certain lands extending from the west side of Connecticut to



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the east side of Delaware Bay. The description is so vague that it is evident that his lawyers had only a very hazy idea of what they were conveying. That some of this land was already in private ownership did not seem to enter anyone's head.

James did not retain his right to all of this territory very long, for on June 24, 1664, he turned over to John, Lord Berkeley, and Sir George Carteret, a good, big chunk; namely:

"All that tract of land adjacent to New England, and lying and being to the westward of Long Island and Manhitus (Manhattan) Island, and bounded on the east by the main sea, and part by Hudson's river, and hath upon the west; Delaware Bay or River, and extendeth southward to the main ocean as far as Cape May at the mouth of the Delaware Bay; and to the northward as far as the northernmost branch of the said bay or river of Delaware... to be called by the name Nova Caesarea or New Jersey."

The name, New Jersey, was bestowed in honor of Carteret's defense of the Island of Jersey where he made his home.

A word of explanation might be in order here as to dates. The English legal year began on March 25th, the historical year, the following January 1st. June 24, 1664, was also June 24, 1663, depending on which calendar was used. Dates, therefore, are properly before 1752 written as 1663/1664, unless they fell between January 1st. and March 25th of each year, when they caught up with one another for that short period. In 1752 this confusion of dates was ended when the present Gregorian calendar was finally made the law of the land.

Berkeley and Carteret immediately set out to make use of their newly acquired territory. They were the Proprietors who owned it and had the right to govern it. It is possible that in order to prevail upon a great number of ordinary folks to leave their homes and migrate to a strange, wild country, they knew perfectly well that great inducements would have to be given to them. It must have been evident that in England, as elsewhere in Europe, a new spirit was abroad in the land. People were beginning to talk about liberty of conscience and freedom to govern themselves, strange words, but potent enough to have caused hundreds to leave home in the early part of the century and face a wilderness in an unknown world in order to achieve these rights. In Massachusetts, Connecticut, and in other parts of the new world, the experiments, while still far from perfect, had become realities, and a few thousand people were enjoying a form of life unknown to them in the old world.

Whatever their motives, Berkeley and Carteret hit upon the one thing to attract settlers to their new land.

On the following February 10, 1664, there was drawn up the remarkable document known as "The Concession and Agreement of the Lords Proprietors of the Province of Nova Caesarea, or New Jersey, to and with all and every the Adventurers and all such as shall settle or plant there", which has been variously called "The Magna Charta of New Jersey", the "first principles of a popular government ever formulated in any age or in any country", and as it certainly was, "The First Constitution of the Colony of New Jersey."

This document is popularly referred to as the "Grants and Concessions". What was so remarkable about this paper, one may ask? The year was 1664. Intolerance and conformity were the rules and nowhere was a man truly free to follow the dictates of his mind and conscience. Women had no rights whatsoever.

However, the Grants and Concessions, after setting forth certain rules as to government officers to be named, provided that all persons who should become subjects of the King of England and swear allegiance to him should be admitted as freemen and enjoy the freedoms and immunities expressed. These freemen were given the right to choose their own deputies or representatives to join with the Governor and Council in making laws, and this General Assembly had the power to make or repeal laws, lay equal taxes, divide the Province into districts, allot to every head, free or servant, male, or female, a quantity of land; to establish courts, commission judges civil and criminal, to review sentences and reprieve or pardon if facts warranted. One item particularly stood out:

"Item: That no person qualified as aforesaid within the Province shall at any time in any way be molested, punished, disquieted or called in question for any difference in opinion or practice in matters of religious concerns who do not actually disturb the civil peace of the Province.. but that all such persons may at all times freely and fully have and enjoy his and their judgments and consciences in matters of religion throughout the said Province, they behaving themselves peaceably and quietly..."

There is little doubt, that when the "Grants and Concessions" were printed and broadcast about England and the settlements in America, they created a stir. Nowhere did they excite more interest than in the Colony of New Haven.

In the Connecticut towns of Wethersfield, Milford, New Haven, and Guilford, collectively referred to as "The New Haven Colony", lived a group of Puritans who had moved there from other places along the Connecticut River.

In the New Haven Colony none but members of its church were entrusted with the rights of freemen. Implicit obedience was demanded of all who lived within its jurisdiction. Even within the family circle the head of the house was

supreme and he must be obeyed. They were just and righteous men within their limits, but were merciless to the unrepentant sinner, and exacted the strictest penalties for any transgressions of their moral code. They demanded the most minute conformity in opinion as to matters of religious faith, and divergence would have meant expulsion from the Colony. No one, according to its law, could hold office, own land, or vote unless he were a member of the Church. In the rest of the Connecticut settlements such restrictions were becoming obsolete. When Charles II came to the throne a new order annulled these laws of the New Haven Colony, and an attempt was made to bring the whole of Connecticut under a uniform and more liberal charter. Some historians feel that Charles II was not wholly motivated by a growing democratic spirit. The Stuarts had never been noted for their democracy. The New Haven Colony had supported the Cromwells against Charles' family, and in their midst were sheltered two of the persons most responsible for severing the head of Charles' father, two of the trial judges, who had sought refuge there. The new law was a simple way to plague the New Haven Puritans, as well as accomplish other aims.

The prospect of submitting to the prospective charter had frightened the New Haven Colony for some time, and for several years Robert Treat and a committee had been negotiating with Peter Stuyvesant to establish a new colony in New Netherlands and there carry on their peculiar principles. Nothing came of the negotiations and in 1662 the New Haven Colony was merged with the Connecticut Commonwealth.

When the "Concessions" were presented to the Group they immediately perceived that there might be the answer. In no time at all a petition was made and granted, and Robert Treat and a selected group journeyed to New Jersey and toured the Province from one end to the other, seeking the best possible spot. They finally decided to choose the land bordering on Newark Bay and the Passaic River, and with the permission of Carteret they prepared to migrate to their new home.

Before they left, however, they drew up their own agreement signed on October 30, 1666. The first clause in their "Fundamental Agreement" which had to be signed by everyone desiring to become a part of the new colony, provided:

"1st: That none shall be admitted freemen or free burgesses within our town upon the Pesayak River in the Province of New Jersey, but such planters as are members of some or other of our congregational churches, nor shall any but such be chosen to magistracy, or to carry on any part of civil judicature, or as deputies or assistants to have power to vote in establishing laws and making or repealing them, or to any chief military trust or office. Nor shall any but such church members have any vote in any such elections..."

"2nd: We shall with care and diligence provide for the maintenance of the purity of religion provided in the congregational church..."

However, as a concession to the new liberal spirit, probably, it was permitted that all others admitted to be planters would have the right to their proper inheritance and to do and enjoy all other civil liberties and privileges according to all laws, orders, and grants, which are or shall hereafter be made for this town. (However, they would have no say in the making of such laws.)

We must not judge these men too harshly. They lived in an age when intolerance was the rule rather than the exception, and they sincerely believed that they were helping their fellow man to reach his heavenly goal. They firmly believed that "the Newark settlement was to be the final attempt to found a Kingdom of God on earth."

What does seem odd now, is that Berkeley and Carteret, in the light of their "Grants and Concessions" permitted the new colonists to set up their own arbitrary rules, and some historians think Treat may have made some special agreement with the Proprietors. As individuals they had no right to set up their own courts or to make sundry other rules including provisions touching on military matters. But if they had made such an arrangement it has become lost, as no record remains of it.

The Fundamental Agreements were signed by 64 heads of families, and allowing at least four members to a family, more than 250 persons must have finally sailed from New Haven, in the middle of May, 1666/1667, to their new home. The settlement's first name was "Milford on the Pesayak River", but was very shortly afterward changed to New Ark, or Newark, after Newark-on-Trent, the home of their minister, Rev. Abraham Pierson.

The Newark Colony prospered. Apart from the initial trouble with the Indians, which shall be told hereafter, and the 9.

natural hardships of building a city out of wilderness, there were few difficulties in their material progress. The Fundamental Agreements gradually slipped into disuse, and as the older folks died off were abandoned. By 1685 they were completely disregarded. Almost from the first, Newark people pushed back into the country and homes sprang up everywhere among the Newark Mountains. However, political differences with the Proprietors developed almost immediately, and like the Elizabethtown troubles, many of them were not settled until the Revolution.

In the meantime, and before Robert Treat had finished his preparations to leave Connecticut, another group of English Calvinists on Long Island, who had hailed the Dutch withdrawal with delight, renewed negotiations to move to

New Jersey. They, too, had been through a long and fruitless dickering with New Amsterdam for permission to move, but nothing came of it. These residents lived mostly in Jamaica, Hempstead, Southold, and the Hamptons, and many were kinsmen or close friends of members of the New Haven Colony. In fact, several had moved from New Haven to Long Island a few years previously.

On the Dutch surrender, the Long Islanders moved quickly. On August 29, 1664, the Dutch had surrendered, and Richard Nicholls took on the office of Deputy Governor for the Duke of York. Within four weeks a petition signed by six men, John Bailey, Daniel Denton, Thomas Benedict, Nathan Denton, John Foster, and Luke Watson, was made to Governor Nicholls asking permission to "purchas and settle a parcel of land."

The usual thing to do, according to Daniel Denton, who was the literary member of the Colony, (his book, "A Brief Description of New York" published in London in 1680, was the first printed work on the subject in the English language), was for a company of people to join together, either enough to make a town or part of a town, send representatives with the consent of the Governor to view a tract of land, and on finding a place suitable, to petition the Governor for a grant or patent to form a town.

The place preferred by the Long Islanders was a plantation on the "After cull River", the latter an attempt at spelling the "Achter Koll", the Dutch name for Newark Bay. (Today we have further anglicized the name and ball part of that Bay, "Arthur Kill".) On September 30th, the Long Island representatives had written permission from Nicholls, and on October 28th, John Bailey (Baily), Daniel Denton, and Luke Watson, received a deed from the Indians for themselves and their associates. On December 1, 1664, Nicholls confirmed the deed to John Baker, John Ogden, John Baily, and Luke Watson, and their associates, Denton having assigned his rights to Ogden and Baker.

Governor Nicholls had almost immediately on assuming office issued a set of conditions under which new planters could enter the territory of the Duke of York. The conditions were not many and provided that persons desiring to start a town should purchase land from the Indian Sachems and record their purchases with the Governor. The purchasers were to be free of all assessments for five years, and would own the lands in fee forever. Liberty of conscience was to be allowed, provided such liberty "is not converted to licentiousness, or the Disturbance of Others in the exercise of the Protestant Religion". All men, except servants and day-labourers, were to be freemen on taking the oath of allegiance. Certain rights of governing themselves were also bestowed.

Everything seemed to be in order and shortly afterward the first settlers arrived. The exact date of their coming is not now known, as the first

Elizabethtown Record Book was lost or stolen in 1718, and no copy of it has as yet been discovered. However, by early Spring, 1665, the settlement was well under way with about 70 planters, wives and children, established. This was almost two years before the Newark settlement.

Their tranquility was shortlived, however. At the time they had made their arrangements with Nicholls, neither they, nor Nicholls, knew of the sale by the Duke of York to Berkeley and Carteret, and they had not heard of the "Grants and Concessions". News travelled very slowly in those days, it must be remembered. Nicholls, too, presumed as the Duke's Deputy, he had the right to confirm and grant land in the Province and to govern it. In August, 1665, therefore, they were disturbed by the arrival of 26 year old Captain Philip Carteret, a cousin of Sir George, with a company of emigrants, to be their Governor. However, the leaders met him, showed him their Indian deed and Colonel Nicholls' approval, and all seemed well. In fact, it is told that Carteret grabbed a hoe from someone and marched gaily up the street from the ship, saying that he would be a planter too. In honor of Sir George Carteret's wife, Elizabeth, that name was chosen as the name of the settlement.

But soon a succession of big and little troubles began to appear in both the settlements of Newark and Elizabeth. Both had paid for their deeds from the Indians and could not understand how anyone else had the right to the land. They wanted no part of the Proprietors' interference, as they considered it, and wanted to make their own rules. For many years they had lived in towns their fathers had founded in America, completely apart from the London authorities. The King and Parliament meant nothing to them, and they had little feeling of allegiance to a monarch across the seas. They were unyielding, independent men, and no one was going to tell them what to do, or how to do it. Most of the company Philip Carteret brought with him were either French Roman Catholics or members of the Church of England, both denominations anathema to the colonists, and Philip proceeded to allot lands to them and declare their rights, and soon feeling seethed in the new settlements. one such allotment of land by Philip started the first of the many law suits which plagued the communities.

An attempt to enforce one item of the "Grants and Concessions" trifling in itself, was to be a major bone of contention and formed the basis of the famous "quit rents" controversy which raged for generations.

Item V of the Sixth division of the Concessions provided that the settlers should pay the rate of one penny or halfpenny per acre yearly to the Proprietors. The Nicholls agreement, however, knowing nothing of this clause, had promised that the land should be free of all assessments for at least five years. The rent of a penny or halfpenny an acre was small, but the colonists refused to pay, and one of the first breeches between the London authorities and the settlement developed.



It is quite probable that if the colonists had paid this rent many quarrels might have been avoided. A quit-rent is a feudal acknowledgment of tenure, however, and its payment was symbolic of a servility which the people had migrated to a strange land in order to avoid. Newark once did tender payment in wheat, but it was refused. The young America was a strong and lusty child who wanted to be free of its mother's apron strings, no matter how loosely its strings are tied, or how beloved the mother might be.

Berkeley and Carteret also began to modify their Grants and Concessions in a series of declarations of their true intent and meaning. In one they disowned any patents (that is, deeds or grants), made by Nicholls, although they offered to redress injustices if the quit-rents were paid; in another they took away some powers of the General Assembly, and so on. A letter sent by Berkeley and Carteret must have irked the colonists. It was addressed to "The Pretended Representatives of Elizabeth-town, Newark, and all others whom it may concern". It offered to listen to their "pretended" grievances, "altho' you have not had such a tender regard of our concerns in those parts, as in justice and equity you ought to have had... of Signed, "Your loving friends, J. Berkeley and G. Carteret".

Evidently Berkeley and Carteret had hoped to turn a nice profit from the land the Duke had given them; the King hoped to establish a prosperous Colony in New Jersey which would strengthen the Empire in many ways, and nothing was working out right. The settlers were getting deeds from the Indians and acting as if they were their own government. Things had reached such a pass that in 1673 when the Dutch again, with the help of certain English residents of New York, captured New Jersey, there was a rush to swear allegiance to the new rule, in return for which the land claims were to be confirmed in the original purchasers. The Dutch rule was shortlived, however; a peace was once more made between the warring nations, and the captured territory was returned to the English. The old conflicts were on again, with increased bitterness on both sides, and only slight offers of compromise were offered by either party.

The Proprietors in 1684 moved the capitol from Elizabeth to Perth Amboy. On Sir George Carteret's death, his widow sold his share to William Penn and his Quaker associates, and eventually New Jersey was divided into the Provinces of East and West Jersey.

Proprietors changed; kings were crowned and died - Charles II, James II, (the former Duke of York); William III, Anne I; Governors came and went, but the feeling between the people and the authorities across the sea never softened.

By 1702 when Anne assumed the throne it seemed as if the Proprietors had had enough of governing an unruly people. By petition of April 15, 1702, they begged Anne to take back the function of government, and they surrendered

all their rights to rule New Jersey. The surrender was accepted and at last New Jersey became a Crown Colony and the people became British subjects. The Proprietors still owned much of the land, however, and one law suit after another filled the Courts until the Revolution.

New Jersey was unique among the British colonies. The fact that the governing body had no right or title to the soil is a distinctive feature of New Jersey at that time. After 1702 the governing power was held by the king, administered by the Governor, council, and assembly, but the title to most of the land was held by the Proprietors.

It may be of interest to some to learn that New Jersey still has a Board of Proprietors. Their office is in Perth Amboy where the old records are still stored. The Board meets at infrequent intervals and still has power to give deeds for certain property in New Jersey.

Millburn was spared the controversies and riots which marked these quarrels we have mentioned. The first settlers here came about 1702, and their titles to, and enjoyment of, possession of their land was never questioned. However, the new people of Millburn must have shared in the dissatisfaction apparent. Most of the first comers here were the descendants of the Newark and Elizabeth colonists and these towns provided all their needs. Their grievances must have been Millburn's grievances. The seeds of revolution sown in those early days found fertile ground here and burst into full flower in 1776. The many gravestones of Springfield and Short Hills bear their mute testimony to the men who stood at their bridges and crossroads to earn their right to a democratic governing on free soil.

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## CHAPTER V. THE INDIAN DEEDS

When Captain Robert Treat and his Company from New Haven rode into Newark Bay on a morning in the middle of May, 1666, they were prepared to stay. They had with them, as Treat set down,

"..their families, their beloved Pastor, their church records, communion service, their deacons, and their household goods, their old men and whitehaired women.."

In fact, they had everything they needed to make "a final attempt to establish the Kingdom of God on earth."

Treat and his committee had cleared their coming with Governor Carteret. He was given a letter by Carteret to be presented to the Indian Sachem of the Hackensacks, a tribe of the Lenape family, to the effect that the settlers had the right to settle.

This letter was supposed to quiet title to the Indians' claim and was the act of warranty from the Governor as required under the "Grants and Concessions."

Why Treat did not have this letter with him, or whether he had lost it or mislaid it, does not appear in the record, but he was unable to produce it to the natives. When the ships anchored the newcomers immediately started to land some of their goods and people. The Indians ordered them off.

As neither side, probably, could understand the other's language too well, there must have been a great shouting and gesticulating on both sides.

"Get off our land" the Chief shouted."

"It's our land, we bought it from Governor Carteret," the white leaders in effect replied, but the Indians then became so excited that the New Havenites began to reload their goods onto the ship. Captain Treat tells the story in his own words:

"No sooner was the company present got on the Place and landed some of their Goods, then I with some others was by some of the Hackensack Indians warned off the ground and they seemed troubled and angry that we landed any of our Goods there, tho' first we had told them that we had the Governor's orders, but they replied that the land was theirs and it was unpurchased; and therefore we put our goods on board the vessel and acquainted the Governor



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with the matter."

Whatever the upshot of the conference with the Governor was, Captain Treat decided to deal with the Indians directly. They were honest men and decided to meet the Indian claims honestly. They returned to the future Newark by ship and began their negotiations. Robert Treat took with him Samuel Edsall who had been living for some time at Bergen Neck and knew the Lenape language, so could act as interpreter, and with a few other men they journeyed to the headquarters of the tribe at Hackensack. Oraton was the Grand Sachem of the Hackensacks, and one, Perro, was his righthand man.

It takes only a little imagination to reconstruct the scene. The place was a tribal village near Hackensack. Treat wrote that they were amazed at the well-tended gardens of the Indians which they saw there. For the ceremonial of the discussion a campfire was prepared and the pipes laid out for smoking. The women passed bowls of food. Indians go about their business slowly and deliberately and much preliminary politeness had to be gone through before the real business began. Next to Treat were seated his interpreter, Samuel Edsall, then his trusted friends, Obadia Bruen, Michael (or Micah) Tompkins, Samuel Kitchell, John Browne, Robert Denison, Edward Burrowes, and Richard Fletcher. On the side of Oraton were Perro, John Capteen, a Dutchman, the interpreter engaged by the Indians, who was evidently their trusted friend, and the wisemen selected by Chief Oraton, Wapamuck, Harish, Sescom, Mamustone, Peter Wamesame, Wekaprokikan, Chesanakrus, (sometimes written as Cackmackque or Cackmakrue) and Perawac. The spelling of these names is undoubtedly phoenetic.

These are the men who signed the deeds and are presumed to have been present at the negotiations.

The deal was not consummated that day in Hackensack. Other meetings were arranged. Many more pipes had to be smoked, more food eaten, perhaps more beere enjoyed before the final day, July 11th and the place of signing in New Ark were agreed upon.

Chief Oraton, from all that has come down to us firsthand, was a great and good old man who would have been a leader no matter in what age, or in what nation, he may have been born. He met the white man as an equal. He neither cringed before him nor tried to threaten him. He recognized the newcomer's superior tools and instruments and sought them for his own people. He grew to hate alcohol and saw its potential dangers for his tribe.

He begged the settlers not to give it to his people freely, but tried, vainly to regulate its use. He has been jestingly called "America's First Prohibition Agent" so often did he report to the white man's leaders infractions of his rules

against giving drink to his people too recklessly.

All this came later, however, when the business at hand had long been disposed of, and the Indian's land had been exchanged for the white man's goods. We do not know how many times they met and discussed and argued in those days of May and June, 1666, but finally the terms were agreed on:

"For and in consideration of the following goods: 50 double hands of powder, 100 barrs of lead, 20 axes, 20 coates, 10 guns, 20 pistols, 10 kettles, 10 swords, 4 blankets, 4 barrels of beere, 10 pairs breeches, 50 knives, 20 howes (hoes?), 850 fathom of wampum, 2 ankors of liquers, or something equivalent, and 3 troopers coates"

the land purchase could be arranged. The Indians had undoubtedly been observing the settlers in Elizabeth or Bergen County and had some acquaintance with White man's goods. The double hands of powder means as much powder as can be held in two hands placed together. The Indians until the white man came had no iron, or tools of any metal, so that great value was placed by them on knives, hoes, and kettles, as well as firearms and ammunition.

For this consideration, a deed was promised to the Inhabitants of Newark conveying land described as follows:

"bounded and limited with the bay eastward and the great River Pesayak northward, to the great Creke or River in the meadow, running to the head of the Cove, and from thence bareing a westerly line for the south bound, which said great Creek is commonly called and known by the name Weequachick on the west line backwards in the Country to the foote of the great Mountaine called Watchung, being as is judged about seven or eight miles from Pesayak Towne, the said mountaine as wee are informed hath one branch of Elizabethtown River running near the above said foot of the Mountaine."

The deed was signed by all parties on July 11, 1666/1667.

A small area in the southwest corner of this first deed is now part of Millburn. The description also included the present Newark, Orange, East Orange, South Orange, West Orange, Glen Ridge, Montclair, Bloomfield, Belleville, Irvington, and Livingston. In his book, "Indian Trails and City Streets" by Edward S. Rankin, C.E. (1928), Mr. Rankin computed the articles to be worth about \$700.00, which today would buy an inch of land on Broad Street, Newark. However, Mr. Rankin compares this price with prices paid for other land elsewhere in the Colonies, including the famous \$24.00 paid for Manhattan Island by the Dutch, and concludes that the Hackensack Indians received the best purchase price of any like deal made.

The Conference at which this deal was finally consummated on July 11, 1666, was held at the head of the cove of the bound creek, (or creke, as Treat's scrivener seemed to prefer spelling it), so that in present day terms the deed was signed somewhere in the middle of Weequahic Park.

The Bound Creek was an important feature of bygone times. It was the last remnant of the ancient Hudson River, which in the days of prehistory, had broken away from its former channel near Sparkhill, New York, and surged through upper New Jersey, until finally it had forced its way through the Hobart Gap in the short hills to the sea at Newark. It is said to have been the boundary between the Hackensack and Raritan Tribes, and it was also the natural boundary line set up between New Ark and Elizabethtown by the first colonists, besides figuring prominently in the lawsuit between Newark and Elizabeth to establish their boundaries. Part of it still forms the boundary line between Essex and Union Counties, and may be found on any map. Now, however, most of it, after it leaves Weequahick Lake flows, rather ignominiously, considering its past glory, through underground conduits to the meadows south of the Airport, where it meanders to the Bay, looking more like a drainage ditch than a river, and few suspect that sailing ships once sailed up its deep channel to their wharves about 500 feet north of the present Meeker Avenue. On its opposite shore ships carrying goods to Elizabeth were unloaded.

"Watchung" in Lenape language, means "the high place", or "the hilly spot", and Passaic, or Pachseyink, means "in the valley", so that if one says that Millburn lies between the Watchungs and the Passaic he is conveying the idea that it lies between the high place, and the valley, which is a fairly accurate description of its location.

Either the colonists were land hungry, or they had no idea of how much land they had actually bought, for we find on March 13, 1667, that the residents of Newark again bargained for another deed.

The Newarkers did well. For 2 guns, 3 coates and 13 kans of rum they acquired practically all of the South Mountain Reservation and another piece of Millburn, ark other territory.

But they still wanted more land. At a town meeting in Newark on October 2, 1699, it was agreed that they would endeavor to make a purchase of a tract of land lying north of our bounds to the south branch of the River Passaic being all the lands yet

"unpurchased of the heathen, and such of the town as do contribute to the purchasing of said land shall have their proportion according to their contribution."

This was called the "Horseneck Purchase" because of its shape, and included the present Caldwell and vicinity. Deed for this land was finally signed in 1702.

All fishing and hunting rights in these deeds were reserved to the Indians.

Two years before the Newark purchase Elizabethtown settlers had received their deed from the Indians before they left home in Long Island, as they had been instructed to do by Colonel Nicholls.

The deed to the Elizabeth property was dated October 28, 1664, and covered

"One parcel of land bounded on the south by a River, commonly called The Raritans River and on the East by the River which Parts Staten Island and the Main, and To Run Northward up after cull Bay Kill we come at the first River which sets westward out of the said Bay aforesaid And to run west into the Country Twice the Length as it is Broad from the North to the South of the aforementioned Bounds, Together with the Lands, Meadows, woods, waters, fields, fenns, fishings, fowlings... with all Gaines, Profitts and Advantages arising upon the said lands..."

"The consideration of the deed was "twenty fathom of Trading Cloath, Two made Coats, Two Guns, Two Kettles, Ten Bars of Lead, Twenty Handfulls of Powder"

rather a bargain price for what has been estimated to be a half a million acres of land. Then the Settlers knocked 70 fathoms of wampum off the purchase price to pay for Watson's oxen which Indians were supposed to have killed. However, from some points of view the consideration was plenty, considering that under English law the Indians had no right to sell the land in the first place, and secondly, the deed was approved by Colonel Nicholls who had no authority to approve it, so that the Associates and their descendants and heirs spent the next hundred years trying to straighten out their titles.

Some part of the future Millburn was included in this deed, and also some part of the Newark holdings, from which arose the great legal battle between the two communities, the bill in Chancery filed on June 13, 1745. No decision was ever given, and no attempt was made to define accurate boundaries until 1880 when the Essex County Freeholders applied to the United States Supreme Court under a Statute then in force for the appointment of Commissioners to locate the line between Newark and Elizabeth. Our old friend "Bound Creek" figured prominently in all these proceedings.

In 1693 the General Assembly defined the bounds of the town of Elizabeth to be from the Rahway River, Woodbridge, to the partition line between the two Provinces, and from the south of Bound Brook, and then to a point on a hill,



(now in Weequahic Park near Lyons and Elizabeth Avenues), and then northwest to the partition line of the Province. This would include all of the present Union County, portions of Essex, Somerset, Hunterdon, Morris, Warren, and Sussex Counties, including Morristown, Stanhope, Schooley's Mountain, and Newton. (Hatfield's "History of the City of Elizabeth," p. 240).

The boundaries of Essex County defined in 1682 by the Legislature had included the above land and all the land between the west side of the Hackensack River and Woodbridge, and westward and northward to the utmost bounds of the Province. Elizabeth remained in Essex County until 1857 when Union County was created.

On the whole, though, New Jersey may well be proud of its first dealings with the Indians in respect to land. It was one of the few places in the country where claims were honestly met, and paid for in articles of value, agreed to freely on both sides.

An interesting sequel to these transactions occurred in 1832. We mentioned that fishing and hunting rights were reserved to the Indians in the Newark deed. Bartholomew S. Calvin was a fullblooded Lenape Indian of the Delaware tribe, although he had been educated at Princeton University, and had become a school teacher. In 1832 he petitioned the New Jersey Legislature to buy from the Lenapes the fishing and hunting rights which the Indians had reserved in the Newark deed. The remnants of the tribe living in Green Bay, Michigan, were in desperate circumstances, and the money was badly needed for their use. The petition presented by Calvin was granted and \$2,000.00 was paid him for his people.

In his letter thanking the Legislature for their action, Calvin wrote:

"Not a drop of our blood have you spilled in battle, not an acre of our land have you taken without our consent. These facts speak for themselves and need no comment. They place the character of New Jersey in full relief and are a bright example to those States within whose territorial limits our brethern still remain. Nothing save benisons can fall upon her from the representatives of the Lenni-Lenape."

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## CHAPTER VI. THE FIRST MILLBURN SETTLERS AND HOW THEY LIVED

Up in the shadow of the first Watchings, the beautiful land lay waiting to fulfill its destiny. Trappers and hunters from the settlements of Newark and Elizabethtown knew it well. The woodsman's ax was striking into the heart of its forests, for lumber, like the rich soil, was wealth, and the sawmill owner and the farmer were the economic rulers of the new empire.

Timber was one of New Jersey's chief products. It was reported by Lewis Morris a Proprietor, to the London Board of Trade, that

"Without New Jersey's timber, Pennsylvania could not build a tolerable house, nor ship off a hogshead or a pipe stave, and New York also has a great supply of timber from this Province." (N.J. Historical Society, Proc. Vol. IV, p. 28),

so that a young man with his way to make in the world could do no better than to found his home in good farming country, near good water; and nowhere in the recently created Essex County in the Province of New Jersey were such good millsites to be found as on the banks of the Raw-way, the Passaic and Canoe Brook, and their tributaries, in the faroff forests of northwestern Elizabethtown Borough.

We do not know for sure who was the first permanent settler. Many of the history books say he was Stephen Parkhurst, and because we have found no evidence either to affirm or deny this statement, we will assume that his name was Stephen, but it could just as well have been Nicholas, or Tom, or Timothy, or Abner, or half a dozen other brave young men. For they were brave men who came here first, and their wives were brave women. Millburn was an unprotected wilderness, wilder than most spots in the United States today, for once beyond the outskirts of the settlements there was nothing but trees, wild animals, and occasional Indians. No Forestry Service extended its long arm of protection around them. No system of communication existed to bring aid in crisis. There was nothing but the lonely sky, trees, hills and rushing waters. More than one early traveller looking down from the mountain top reported that as far as the eye could see lay an unbroken forest, with no sign of habitation anywhere.

We do not even know the name of Stephen's wife. We must presume that they were both young, strong, and healthy, with courage and resourcefulness, for only people with these qualities could survive.

Like so many people following him, Stephen had been born in Connecticut, but as he grew into manhood he began to see that the future lay west. Some



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friends or relatives had moved to the Province of New Jersey and many wonderful stories were coming back about the advantages of life there. The journey by ship to Elizabethtown was comparatively simple, and on his arrival there he was pleased with the change. But he soon perceived that here, too, life had stiffened into a pattern, and the new frontiers lay still beyond. The town was becoming crowded, everyone thought,\* but more distressing was the political situation which was growing worse daily.

\_\_\_\_\_ \*actually the entire population of New Jersey in 1726 was 32,442, but letters of 1700 indicate that people considered they had an overcrowding problem.

The struggle between the citizens on the one hand, the proprietors and the various royal governors on the other, was intensifying, and land titles had become so hopelessly snarled that one can well imagine that an enterprising, independent young man, with or without a growing family, might have had ample reason for wanting to leave the city. Law and order had broken down. The most extreme violence broke out in March, 1700. Opposition to the Government became so intense that a mob appeared at the opening of the Essex County Court at Elizabeth and repudiated its authority. When the next day, an attempt was made to arrest the leader of the mob,

"there arose such a Generall noise and hollowing with unseemly action and insolvent gestures,"

that the Court again adjourned (New Jersey Archives, II, p. 313). When the Crown took over the Government in 1702, the situation did not improve, as Queen Anne's appointee, her cousin, Edward Hyde, Lord Cornbury, simply increased the trouble through his lack of understanding of the people, and his inability to make any concessions to their independent spirit. The fact that New Jersey under Cornbury was merged with New York and become only a minor subdivision of it, for a time, did not help matters either.

Furthermore, the laws the people themselves had been responsible for, may have begun to seem pretty stuffy to the young people growing up in the early 1700's. The simplest infraction of the moral code, called "offenses against God", including swearing, "prophane" talking, drinking of healths, telling a lie, were severely punished, and there were no limitations on how far a witness could go in accusing another of a crime. For the first offense of swearing a fine of two shillings, six pence was demanded, or if one could not pay and was over 12 years of age, his punishment was three hours in the stocks. Those under 12 could be whipped by the constable. That was one of the least of the crimes for which punishment was exacted. Profaning the Lord's Day by any work, exercise, travel, (except to church), games, or any pleasurable pursuits, no matter how innocent, provoked the wrath of the officials. The wearing of swords brought a fine of five pounds for the first offense, walking or being

abrade after nine o'clock at night, the use of cosmetics, using disrespectful language against those in office, and many other minor behavior variances, brought down more troubles on the head of the unfortunate offender. Getting drunk in public was not so bad. It carried a fine of only one shilling for the first offense. Most criminal offenses, including stealing, or, if one was over 16, smiting or cursing at a parent, or being a witch, carried the death penalty, although actually not often enforced.

Small wonder then that around this time many decided to move to the wilderness, where, while not free of the law, at least there were few witnesses to one's slightest word or action. Since about 1687 some people had been moving out of the settlements. A few settled in the fields west of Elizabeth (Westfield); others went to Turkey, (New Providence), and yet others, originally from Connecticut, moved to Wade's Mills, also known as Connecticut Farms (Union). Some Scotch immigrants, intolerantly treated by their English neighbors in Perth Amboy and elsewhere, 5.

sought refuge in the plains near the mountains, and soon provided a name, "The Scotch Plains" for their community. A few miles to the north of the future Millburn, a few hardy souls were hacking out farms from the forests in a place simply called "On the Passaic", later changed to Chatham, to honor William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. Good precedent for young people existed to seek a new way of life.

One morning in early Spring, shortly after chronological time had moved into the 1700's, a man and his wife appeared on the woodland trail leading from Elizabeth to Morristown. Just beyond where the Raw-way River crossed the trail they turned off and followed the path north along the river. Stephen Parkhurst had come at last to take possession of his homesite. He had cleared his title with the Proprietors so that he would not get into the troubles so many pioneers were beginning to experience? troubles in which established homes were taken away from them in the name of the Proprietors' claims ? troubles which would lead to riotous marches on Newark and would sow more seeds of rebellion against the Crown. But Stephen evidently had had good advice and ran into no such difficulties here. Perhaps they brought a brother or other family member or a good friend with them, to help with the house-raising. He undoubtedly had been up to look over his property many times, and had either started a sawmill himself, or made arrangements with one for timber. A letter from Governor Lawrie, written to London a few years previously, supplies a few facts about the usual procedure:

"The countrie farme houses are built very cheap,' he wrote, "a carpenter with a helper builds a house and they have all materials for nothing except the nails. Their chimnies are of stone. They make their own ploughs and carts for the most part. The poorer set up a house of 2 or 3 rooms themselves after this manner; The Walls are of cloven timber about 8 or 10 inch broad like planks

set on end to the ground, and the others nailed to the rising which they plaster within. They build a barn in the same manner, and this cost not above five pounds apiece, and then they go to work. Two or three men in one year will clear 50 acres ... They sow corn the first year and afterwards maintain themselves..."

We may presume that Stephen and his wife came in the Spring when several months of good weather could be counted on. Perhaps they had a friend or relative living at Connecticut Farms where they could return for occasional help, but more likely they camped on the spot and rose at daybreak to build their house, for to go any place meant a long walk over incredibly bad roads.

Travelling anywhere was difficult, and one wonders at the courage and stamina of people in moving about at all. The only paths between Elizabeth or Newark and the present Millburn Township were the old Indian Trails, at the most two and a half feet wide and worn about a foot deep. Around 1705 a road was built from Newark to connect with the mountain folk at Orange, and a trail (now South Orange Avenue) ran over the mountain pass into the valley below to join the main Minisink Trail.

A road was simply a path wide enough for a horse or person to pass along, dug out of the forest, and made by dragging the surface to remove the turf and filling in the holes with loose dirt. They were deep with dust in summer and almost impassable in Spring or Fall by reason of the deep mud. It is interesting to note here, however, that New Jersey which today has one of the finest highway systems in the world, claims the first scientifically constructed road. Sometime before 1664 the Dutch built a road called "The Old Mine Road" running from the Pahaquarry Mine in Sussex County across to Warren County. The road was built of broken stones, and is the only known road of the times built on such a firm foundation. It is still in existence. Some time in the 18th century, a few roads were built of logs or planks, and for a while corduroy roads or plank roads seemed to be the answer, but even they did not hold up against the engulfing mud.

Travel was mostly by foot or horseback, the woman riding behind her husband on a pillion. Carriages were unknown. A horse-drawn vehicle had made its appearance in elegant Boston in 1687, but it was not until 1730 that carriages became common in New Jersey, when the first stage coach between Amboy and Burlington commenced operations. The first mention of a wheeled vehicle passing over New Jersey occurs in 1707. The road still known as "St. George's Avenue", was one of the first vehicular traffic roads through present Essex, Union, Middlesex counties. Two-wheeled rough carts, the wheels solidly made simply by cutting across the diameter of a big tree base were homemade by a few inventive folk, but these were mostly pulled by hand and could not go on long journeys. Even the first stage coaches were rough and uncomfortable with large clumsy wheels which had to be lubricated with tar every few miles from

the tar bucket carried underneath. Frequently they fell off causing fatal accidents. Much travelling was done in winter when the roads were frozen and hence more easily traversed. Sleighs were in use in 1700, but the price of a horse was high, and few could afford the luxury of owning one. In the towns, later on, wealthy people rode in sedan chairs carried by servants, but this mode of travelling was not suitable for long distances. This style was sometimes dangerous, too, as as late as August 12, 1751, the New York Weekly Post reported that "two women of Elizabeth have been killed within these few weeks near their place by falling out of riding chairs."

Wherever possible, the main form of travel was by boat, and if one lived near the waterways it was comparatively easy to take a ship from Elizabeth or Newark to Amboy or Burlington or New York, or in fact any place along the coast. There were no bridges; streams had to be forded, and at certain seasons of the year, crossing was a hazardous undertaking.

If Stephen Parkhurst were fortunate enough to own an ox or a horse he made the journey from Elizabeth on its back, with his wife behind him. If he did not, then he came on foot, and undoubtedly walked the six or seven miles back and forth frequently, bringing his tools and a few household necessities with him. He would have to make most of his own furniture and implements anyway, and would hew out for himself the timber for the house and the planks for the floor. Besides the furniture, he would make his own utensils, tools, shingles, barrels, and even his plough which was a clumsy wooden one, there being no iron ploughs until 1776, and few in general use until about 1797, as most people believed that iron would poison the soil. There were no stores, but the few necessities not homemade, could be obtained by barter in the town. The only hard money was the Spanish dollar or piece of eight (real), with its smaller four-bit and two-bit pieces. This foreign metal currency carried English values, the dollar being about four English shillings, but it, and not the English valuation, would one day provide a money system for the new United States.

While Stephen worked on the house, his wife cleared a little land for a small kitchen garden, and planted it. She gathered wild berries, fruits, grapes, nuts, and medicinal roots. In his spare time, Stephen hunted and fished. Perhaps the young couple brought with them a young pig, or two, a calf, a pair of lambs, a few chickens, so that by Fall, when the crops were harvested from her garden? cabbages, potatoes, beans, and corn, a pig slaughtered, and the meat salted, then with eggs, milk, cheese and plenty of cider, as well as dried fruits, there was little danger of starvation during the winter.

Again Governor Lawrie supplies some information:

"They have beer, pork, bacon, pudding, milk, butter and good beer and cyder for drink ... The soil is generally black and in some places a foot deep, beareth great burthens of corn and naturally bringeth forth English grass two years

after ploughing. The ground is very tender and ploughing easie ... Sometimes there are 100 trees upon an acre (to be cleared away). The trees are very tall and straight, the genrall are Oak, Beech, Walnut. Walnuts, chestnuts, and acorns lie thick upon the ground for want of eating. Peaches, vines, strawberries, and many other sorts of fruit grow commonly in the woods."

Other authorities say that rye, oats, buckwheat and a little wheat were raised everywhere. Orchards were established as soon as possible as cider was an important crop. The great temperance movement did not come until the 19th century, and alcoholic beverages were part of the daily diet, for everyone. Only the crime of drunkenness in public was punishable. As far back as 1683 Governor Rudyard wrote from Elizabeth,

"At a town called Newark 7 or 8 miles hence, is made great quantities of Syder exceeding anything we have from New England or Rhod Island or Long Island. I hope to make 20 or 30 barrels out of our Orchard next year, as they have done before me, but for that it must be as Providence orders,"

And others tell of a thousand barrels produced in Newark in a single season. Hard cider, beer, Jamaica rum, and brandy were the staples of the household, and fancier drinks were prepared in quantity for festive occasions. one such, was beer simmered with crusts of bread and sweetened with molasses.

Another drink for party gatherings or cold weather was switchel, made from molasses and water, a dash of vinegar, ginger, and rum. Another popular drink was metheglin, made from boiled fermented honey, water, and spices. A little ditty sung before the Revolution indicates the variety of liquid refreshment available:

"Oh, we can make liquor to sweeten our lips of pumpkins and parsnips and walnut-tree chips."

It is nice to know that there was a little fun mixed with the drudgery of life in Millburn in the early 1700's, for life was hard everywhere, even at its best. In all of New Jersey there was not a single bathtub. Open fires with wood for fuel roared up the chimneys and cooking was done at the fireplace. The fires supplied little heat in winter, but narrow doors and small windows made the rooms unbearable in the summertime. Screens were unknown and flies and mosquitos added to summer woes. Only the extremely wealthy had imported carpets and wallpapers, curtains, china, and silver. The average family ate with wooden spoons from wooden bowls, with an occasional piece of pewter to grace the table.

Fertilizers or the use of lime were unknown, but in the rich virgin soil everything planted grew lustily for many years. If Stephen's wife had had time to plant a



few flowers they would have been limited to hollyhocks, snowballs, roses, lilacs, pinks, sunflowers and morning glories.

Mrs. Stephen's dowry had included a few bolts of cloth spun by her and her mother before marriage?linen for dress up occasions; linsey-woolsey, a linen and wool mixture for warmer use, or coarse help cloth for workdays, so that she did not have to worry about providing clothing for herself and family immediately. When Fall came she would need warm clothing. In the house near the fireplace her loom would be made ready, and after the sheep were sheared she would have little time for frivolities, for a month of hard work lay ahead. The wool had to be carded or combed to untangle it; then the strands must be spun, and wound on reels or skeins. Dyeing was, of course, done at home from sumac, pokeweed, hickory bark, walnuts, and other plants. If they could afford it, they might hire a young, unmarried girl known as a spinster, to do the spinning, but mostly the housewife had to do it herself.

She also had to find time for soapmaking, for which she had collected ashes for several months, and for candlemaking, from boiled mutton fat. Wicks were dipped into it again and again until the candles were finally thick enough for use.

The leather for their shoes, vests, and Stephen jerkins, breeches saddles, harness, if they had a horse, would come from the labor of their own hands, and, of course, the winter provisions had to be preserved and stored, in handmade, homemade containers.

Samuel Bailey built a forge along the river and became Millburn's first nailmaker. Nails were an important commodity all over the Province and no doubt his nails help build many hones in the vicinity.

Stephen Parkhurst and his wife probably had many children for it is known that two, Abraham and Samuel Parkhurst, lived to manhood, and as the usual percentage of children raised to adults was about two out of eight, they may have had eight children. There was no protection against the diseases of childhood, so that smallpox, diphtheria, measles, and whooping cough, sweeping through the community at intervals took several children in one family often in a single year ? a fact obviously recorded on many cemetery stones. Later in the century when newspapers and other written records came into existence, one reads of pestilences sweeping across the Orange Mountains. These diseases we would recognize today, from the descriptions of their symptoms as influenza, intestinal disturbances, or virus pneumonia, and sometimes whole families were wiped out by them. There were no doctors, nor any medical schools to provide doctors. A few people, men and women, wise in the ways of healing, and the use of herbs, would appear and act as physicians, and sometimes their skills prevailed, but only the strong usually survived a serious illness.

Many years after the first people settled in Millburn, the Rev. Doctor Jonathan Dickinson, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth, and later one of the founders, and first President of the College of New Jersey, (now Princeton University), announced in the American Weekly Mercury of New York, in 1742, that in a few days he would publish "observations on that terrible Disease vulgarly called 'the Throat Disease'," with advice as to the method of cure.

Dr. Dickinson's degree was an academic, not a medical one, but he was very interested in human ailments and published several discourses concerning them, and was often called on for help. He is said to have gone everywhere ministering to the sick.

One of the first known physicians in this area was Dr. Matthias Pierson who was born in 1734 and lived on Northfield Avenue on the western slope of the mountain. Ichobod Burnet of Elizabeth, John Condit of the Oranges, John Deancy, William Turner; and Mr. Pigot of Newark travelled far and wide on horseback across the country to visit patients, but of all of these only Dr. Burnet is known to have had real training. He was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh where instruction in obstetrics was available. A midwife, Martha Harrison, of orange, had a wide practice here also.

However, Dr. Jonathan Dayton, was the first trained physician actually to live in Springfield and practice here. He began his career in 1754 and for 24 years, until his death in 1778, was not only doctor, but confidant, town official, agent, executor, and in fact performed in every capacity in which a man could be called upon to serve his fellow men.

Peter Kalm, from Sweden, who travelled across the country in the early part of the 18th century, and wrote a book about it, "Travels in North America", tells of a favorite remedy for children in New Jersey to prevent worms. Wormseeds were dried and then steeped in brandy, taken out and given to children either in sweetened beer or in other liquor. He does not tell us whether the remedy helped the worms or the children.

We do not know where Stephen Parkhurst built his first house. In the 19th century Parkhursts lived on Brookside Drive, on Short Hills Avenue near the Morris Turnpike, and in several other streets, but a great great granddaughter of Ezra Parkhurst refers to the Brookside Drive site as the "homestead", her father having been born there across from the Paper Mill Playhouse in 1857. Ezra Parkhurst and his son, Jonathan, founded and operated the paper mill in the early 1800's, so that area may have been Stephen's choice for his home. This is only speculation, of course, and no records to prove it have been found. Brookside Drive, old Short Hills Road or Short Hills Avenue (present names)

were accessible, and their nearness to good water supplies would have made them attractive to settlers.

The first comers certainly became acquainted with Tom and Nicholas Parsil who built homes at about the same time on the ridge along another Indian Trail between Livingston and Millburn Center, and their Parsil Inn must have been a pleasant stopping off place for weary travellers on the way to the important centers of Elizabethtown and Perth Amboy. Sometime later this road was called "Feather Bed Lane", and still later, "White Oak Ridge Road", but when young Tom Parsil built his home which is still standing, it was only a nameless clearing in the endless forest.

Thomas Parsil's home, now located at 365 White Oak Ridge Road has the date "1709" carved in the chimney stone. The accuracy of that date has been questioned, but no positive verification is available. His brother, Nicholas, built his home nearby, so that the oldest houses still remaining in Millburn in the centennial year 1957 are those built around the Ridge. The spelling of the surname "Parsil" is the modern spelling preferred by present members of the family. In the cemetery the name appears as "Parcell", "Parcil", "Parsel", and "Parsell".

Around 1717 the Denmans, Briants, Stites, Whiteheads and VanWinkles had settled around Springfield, the Denmans and Briants, and possibly the VanWinkles, coming from the Hackensack settlements. Soon afterward the Reeves family settled on the "north side of the first mountain" (now Wyoming Section); Timothy Meeker moved from Elizabeth to a farm in the north at or near present South Orange Avenue, and Brookside Drive, and these families with the Parsils, and soon, the Wades, Deens, Baldwins, Balls, Rosses, Drews, Smiths, Morehouses, Taylors, Lyons, Muchmores, and others, formed a substantial little colony, spreading from what is now the Morris Turnpike to the present Livingston. It is interesting to note that many of these names appear again and again in Township history, even to the present day.

For the first 40 years there were no churches, schools, or meeting places, or taverns. Some attended religious services in Elizabeth walking both ways. It was rather fun, though. A big lunch was packed; the children frolicked along the way, whenever the sharp eyes of their parents were not upon them, and old friends and relatives could be visited after the services. On the way home in good weather a stop was made at some pleasant spot for lunch, and even though Sabbath laws were strict and not to be overlooked, good food, companionship, sunshine, and a beautiful countryside can soften the hardest of blue laws.

About 1745 it was decided to build a church of their own, of the Presbyterian denomination, somewhere on what is now Main Street, at or near Meeker Place. A rough small building was erected and Rev. Timothy Symmes was

installed as Pastor. He preached there, alternately with the church in New Providence, until 1750, when he was "dismissed for ill conduct." What this ill conduct was does not appear, but certainly it had nothing to do with moral conduct as he was recommended for work in the South by the Synod. However, he eventually returned to Ipswich, Massachusetts, from whence he had come, and the congregation here was without a regular minister for several years, until 1761, in fact, when the new church was built in Springfield.

At the time the church was established the minister was given 100 acres of land for "glebe." Glebe is defined by Bouvier's Law Dictionary as

"In ecclesiastical law, the land which belongs to a church; it is the dowry of a church,"

and the word "Parsonage" as

"a portion of lands and titles established by law for the maintenance of a minister."

It, therefore, becomes evident why the place of the minister's glebe soon became known as the 'Parsonage Hill Road." The reason for the location of the glebe may be simply deduced. The Minisink Trail passed the door of the little church, and ran through the country up Old Short Hills Road to White Oak Ridge Road and Northwestward (all names being present names, of course), so that naturally the glebe land could be reached easily by the minister, yet distant enough to be virgin forest and away from the sawmills' constant demands. This right of glebe remained until 1867 when it was extinguished by law and the property sold to William Seaver.

A church was an important institution for a community, not only for its religious significance, but because it represented the only social center, and place for dissemination of news. The gathering on the Lord's Day was the principal occasion for the announcement of happenings either at home or abroad. Notices were posted at the church door, and, of course, the word of mouth stories, both true and mere rumor, provided days of speculation and rumination. In Boston, a News-Letter, one sheet 8 x 12 inches in size, appeared in 1704, and the Boston Gazette and the New England Courant were published in 1719 and 1721, and a few copies reached here much later. In 1725 the "New York Gazette" made its appearance, an event of no small importance, and from it people began to learn of events in the outside world. Some precious copies reached here eventually and were shared and treasured.

But in spite of all difficulties and obstacles the population grew and the scattered settlements began to be recognized as places with names; i.e., one

was Springfield Ward of the Borough of Elizabethtown, in the northern portion of which farms and homes were springing up which would one day feel themselves a distinct entity entitled to become a Township in their own right, but that day was still a hundred years in the future.

The first map showing owners' names and locations is the one made by Thomas Ball of the New Ark Mountain Purchase Claim prepared in 1760-1764. While crudely drawn, and certainly inaccurate, it is valuable for giving us the first information as to names and places. It comprises an area running from west of Morris Turnpike through present Millburn, Livingston, and the old "Horseneck" tract of the third Indian purchase which included Livingston, Caldwell, Roseland, Essex Fells, and the surrounding communities. The main part of interest to us is the area from which Millburn may be glimpsed. It shows a half a dozen saw mills, grist mills and forges, and the homes of most of the early settlers we have named. No roads are designated by name, but the roads we know as Main Street, Millburn Avenue, Old Short Hills Road, Brookside Drive, Parsonage Hill Road, Hobart Avenue and White Oak Ridge Road appear crudely in approximately their present locations. Millburn Avenue is simply referred to as "to New Ark" and Morris Turnpike as the road from Morristown to Springfield to Elizabethtown.

The bridge in Millburn center is called "Egbeson's Bridge", South Orange Avenue is "Durand's Notch", and three mouths of Canoe Brook are noted.

By mid century the trees were thinning and the short hills were becoming denuded as the constant demand of the sawmills consumed quantities of the first growth forests. Rev. Andrew Barnsby who travelled through the colonies in 1758 relates that the destruction of the forests was well under way by that time, and in fact in some forests, tall trees had to be reserved under severe penalty for the Crown, for masts for sailing ships.

Such was Millburn on the eve of the Revolution? crude, independent, hardy, toughened in the long battle for survival, determined to defend its hard won homes to death, if necessary, inured to hardships, yet full of zest for living and the few moments of gaiety. Here were the men with whom an effete foe from across the seas were soon to be locked in mortal combat. The outcome had been decided long ago on the old Indian trails and in the deep woods of the settlements.

Issues were not yet joined, but the final judgment, seen from the vantage point of history, would clearly go to the defendants, and not to the men with the superior weapons ? an idea so clearly preposterous to the rulers of that day that it would take almost eight years for them to realize that the war was not a pleasant sport for gentlemen, but that they were about to lose a continent.

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## CHAPTER VII. I SEE BY THE PAPERS

When the New York Gazette was established in 1725 the people of New Jersey for the first time had a newspaper readily available to them, and one which contained local news and advertisements.

The items from the Gazette, and the other papers which soon followed have been preserved in the New Jersey Archives. Some of those articles, particularly those concerned with the people of Springfield and nearby communities follow. No comment is necessary as they speak for themselves, and give a better picture of the life of those times than could be written today.

1742, New York Gazette, "We hear from Newark in New Jersey that some time last week they had there a most violent hurrican, the extent of which was about 40 rods and it tore up everything in its way."

December 24, 1744, New York Weekly, (Advertisement) Reward for the return of an Indian Wench named Sarah, absented some time ago from her Master, the Rev. Mr. Simon Horton of Connecticut Farms. She formerly belonged to Samuel Bayard of New York City. She is a short thick Wench and has lost some of her Fore Teeth.

1745, New York Evening Post?"We have the melancholy news from the Borough of Elizabethtown that Mr. Nathaniel Bunnel, son of Joseph Bunnel, one of His majesty's Judges died some time last week, his death was occasioned by an unhappy blow on the back part of his head which he received from a rail that lay in a cart rut which the wheel of the cart flung up as it went over."

1748, New York Gazette. The Elizabethtown Lottery is proposed to begin drawing the first Tuesday in May next, if it be full by that time; a small number of the tickets are remaining unsold, those who incline to be adventurers are desired to be expeditious.

July 16, 1750, New York Weekly Post Boy ? We have an account from Ash Swamp near Elizabethtown that a shower of Hail incredibly large fell in a vein of some miles which laid waste and entirely consumed every Field of Wheat, and Corn.. and Birds and Fowles scarce one within its Reach escaped. Tis said some of the Hail Stones were as big as Hen's Eggs."

April 27, 1752. (Advertisement) "A likely parcel of Negro Boys and Girls from 12 to 20 years of age, who have all had the Small Pox, to be sold by Cornelius Hetfield in Elizabethtown."



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June 24, 1758, New York mercury? Captain Jonathan Hampton of Elizabethtown writes from Cole's Fort on the Frontiers of New Jersey giving an account of the progress of the war against the Indians.

August 21, 1758 ? Horse race to take place at Elizabeth Town on Tuesday, October 30th; three two mile heats, for 20 pounds.

February 18, 1760, New York Mercury? Choice deer skins to be sold by David Ball and Matthias Swain at Springfield for cash.

January 23, 1764, Massachusetts Gazette and News Letter? Last Friday departed this life, Miss Mary Eldrington of Elizabethtown, an old virgin, in the 100th year of her age, and the next day she was decently interred in St. John's Churchyard at Elizabethtown. It is remarkable that notwithstanding her great age, she was very desirous of getting a husband before she died.

Springfield, March 20, 1764? Run away about four weeks ago from the subscriber, an apprentice boy named James Craze about 17 years of age, a middling sized lad marked with small Pox and wears his own straight black hair. Had on when he went away an old gray watch coat, blue broadcloth coat, short blue jacket, a Pair of Leather Breeches, blue rib'd stockings and a Castor hat ... 20 shillings reward paid by James Campbell.

May 16, 1763, Samuel Meeker's negro, Sampson, has run away again.

1768? LAND FOR SALE BY WAY OF PUBLICK VENDUE: A plantation or tract of land situated at Springfield within half a mile of Isaac Woodruff's about 140 acres late the property of Daniel Ball, a dwelling house, sawmill, barn, and about 25 acres of meadow fit for the scythe and a young orchard. Advertised by Jonathan Dayton, Nathaniel Ball, and others.

May 15, 1769? SALE of Nathaniel Balmon's plantation, one-half mile of Presbyterian Church, 50 acres, double house, barn, smook house, chair house, cyder mill with two good presses, 2,000 peach trees, 150 apple trees bounded on south by the east branch of the Rahway River. Advertised by Nathaniel Salmon, John Stiles, and David Morehouse.

September 30, 1769? Run away about 18 months since from Springfield near Elizabeth a certain Negro Man named Brit? 30 years of age, 6 feet high stout and well made. He was taken by execution at the suit of Elias Desbrosses of New York City and sold by the Sheriff of Essex County to Jecamiah Smith. The fellow is supposed to be harboured at Wyoming by his former master named Nathaniel Salmon. Reward ten dollars. Jecamiah Smith.



March 25, 1771?10 pounds reward. Stolen from the house of Joseph Tucker of Springfield 2 suits cloaths one light purple color, broad cloth, and other blue; 2 good beaver hats one with broad gold lace; 1 pair white worsted stockings; 1 pair blue yarn stockings; 1 pair silver knee buckles; 1 silver stock buckle; 1 pair buckskin breeches very little worn; 1 reddish brown barcelona handkerchief of changeable color, and sundry other articles. The above cloaths have been taken by a man named Kenaur or Conar. Also the chest and cupboard in which the cloaths lay. He is about 5 feet 6 inches high, thickset, has black hair, and very much addicted to lying. N.B. It is thought that he has gone to Virginia and is probably wearing some of the cloaths.

September 2, 1771, New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury?Reward \$3.00 for each, or \$6.00 for both. Ran away from the subscribers living at Springfield near Elizabethtown two apprentice lads, one of them named Anthony Little 18 years old.. weaver, had pretty thick legs and a down look, had on a light blue cloath jacket, tow trousers, and white linen shirt; ... the other named Ichabod Foster, tailor, 18 years old ... and it's supposed they both are gone toward Princeton. Advertised by James Black and Daniel Pearson.

April, 1773 Scheme of a Lottery?to raise the sum of 545 pounds, New York money, for, the benefit of the Presbyterian Church of Springfield in East New Jersey, to be drawn in separate classes to wit: (then follows details of three classes) Drawn under the inspection of J.J. Dayton, Captain Jacob Brookfield, James Campbell, Samuel Meeker, Dr. Jonathan Dayton, Joseph Halsey, and Joshua Horton. The church is enclosed, but money is wanted to finish it. The good people of this county are therefore earnestly entreated to contribute their assets that the tickets may be disposed of and the inhabitants assemble for the performance of Divine Worship.

November 14, 1774. To be sold by Abner Hetfield in Elizabethtown good West India and New Haven Rum by the hogshead or barrel as cheap as it could be bought for cash in New York.

January 14, 1775. Run away from the subscriber, James Black, an apprentice lad named James Russel. .. and Run Away from the subscriber, James Campbel, apprentice lad about 18 years old named Joseph Burwell?Rewards, Springfield, N.J.

March 4, 1775 This is to Give Notice?That the subscriber intends to ride post from this place to New York and return here as usual every Tuesday afternoon. He also proposes to erect a complete and commodious stage waggon to go from his house in Hanover and from thence set off at 5 o'clock every Tuesday morning and proceed the same day to Powles Hook (calling on the following places: at the house of Nebemiah Woodruff at Springfield, and return at five o'clock every Thursday morning and come through Newark and Springfield without calling at Hanover to this place (Morristown). Passengers are

requested to come over the river on Wednesday evening. Rate 4 shillings New York currency and a like sum for returning. Constant Cooper, Morristown, March 4, 1775.

To Be Sold At Publick. Vendue:

On Thursday at the house of Joseph Denman near Springfield, horse and wagon, cyder, potatoes, Indian corn, buckwheat, salt.

Strayed or Stolen from the subscriber (David Clark) living at Vaux-hall near Springfield 2 milch cows. (Note name "Vaux-hall".)

To be Sold By Matthias Denman:

Best leather breeches for cash or country produce.

To Be Sold by John Dixon at Bottle Hill: Taffety, Peelong, Persians, Oznaburgs, Bath coating, Dutch lace, Bohea tea, Indigo, Snuff, Cutteau knives, Barlow knives, and whale oil.

Stolen from the Subscriber, Jephtha Morehouse, a 25 yards of 3-1/2 linen which was cut out of the loom. Canoe Brook, June 20th, 1780.

August 26, 1778: To the unspeakable grief of a mourning wife and the great loss of four desirable children, died of Odematous Tumour in Springfield in the 48th year of his age, Dr. Jonathan Dayton who had practiced Physick with great care, success, and reputation for the space of 24 years in that place and parts adjacent, and his remains were the next day decently interred in the burying ground of that place, and a suitable sermon preached by the Rev. James Caldwell.

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## CHAPTER VIII. THE WAR COMES TO MILLBURN

How did a little frontier settlement like Springfield become a battle ground, and of what importance was this village of a few score people and their widely scattered homes to his Majesty's forces to compel them to make several attempts to capture it? Two very good reasons may be simply deduced. As early as 1776 the advantages of an encampment at Morristown were evident to Washington and his advisors. General James Wilkinson writing in December, 1776, says that Morristown provided a safe place for an army of observation and for a winter camp; the chain of sharp hills protected its approaches; defiles in the rear would cover a retreat; the country thereabout abounded in forage and provisions, and it lay about equal distance from New York, Amboy, Newark and New Brunswick, while communication with West Point could be safely carried on through the hinterland.

Also, that chain of sharp hills, those masses of traprock and sandstone, on which Nature had labored for millions of years, were of the utmost strategic importance. With British men and arms swarming on their summits, Washington's little tatterdemalion army could be annihilated. New Jersey had become the center of the war, the "Cockpit of the Revolution" as Professor Leonard Lundin had called it, and sometimes only the men of Springfield and vicinity stood between the well-dressed red-coated generals and their victory.

Elizabethtown had temporarily, at least, become the center of the elegant, social life of the American colonies, and to it flocked gentlemen of all shades of political opinion, and over the glasses of after-dinner wine, gossip and speculation, intrigue and strategy were indulged in freely and sometimes hotheadedly. Governor and Mrs. William Livingston's home was the center for patriots, and there often gathered Alexander Hamilton, General and Mrs. Nathaniel S. Greene, General and Mrs. Elias Boudinot, the John Jays, the French minister, M. Conrad Gerard, Don Juan de Mirallies from Spain, and others. The marquis de Lafayette and his retinue, and, of course, the Washingtons, besides lesser luminaries, enjoyed the hospitality of the gracious Elizabeth mansions. A garrison of regular army men gave color to the social whirl.

In Springfield, however, (in which town, of course, Millburn was then included), there was little of such grace and elegance to smooth the harshness of war. The homes were modest and every member of every family worked hard through long days to provide their daily needs. Raids on the little farmhouses were frequent and troublesome. A group of enemy soldiers would suddenly appear, swooping down in a foray for provisions. Newly baked bread, hot from the oven, milk, eggs, chickens, would disappear in the twinkling of an eye, and there was no defense against these attacks. The British camp on Staten Island



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was a constant threat, and it was soon apparent that the capture of Morristown would become an important objective.

We do not know how many of Springfield's men joined the regular army, but a very active militia of 1,000, largely recruited from Springfield, Union, Chatham, and Elizabeth, under Colonel Jacob Ford, Jr. was formed. Based on the number of Revolutionary soldier markers on the gravestones here now, practically every able-bodied man must have become a member; and a man's age was not of much importance. on the evidence of the headstones, Philip Denman, for instance, was 15 in 1780, Stephen Woodruff was 50, Henry Butterworth and John Meeker were both 16, and other ages varied widely.

In addition to the militia, the Association of Whigs included most loyal men, and from it a Committee of Safety was appointed whose executive directions every member of the Association was bound to obey. The organization of Minute Men contained boys and men, many too old or too young to fight with the regulars or the militia, who were ready at all times to assemble at a prenamed rendezvous. In critical times they took their guns and ammunition with them to church, and stories are told of grain left uncut in the fields, and religious services prematurely ended as the guns boomed their warnings and the tongues of fire leaped from the tops of the Springfield mountains.

On the mountains, observation posts were manned round-the-clock, to watch the crossings from Staten Island and the movements on Galloping Hill Road and other roads out of Elizabeth. Joseph Brant is said to be the man who actually fired the warning gun before the battle of Springfield. Joseph Brant's sister was Martha Mary, married to Jacob Taylor, a descendant of the first Taylors in Taylor Lane (Taylor Road), Short Hills.

For authentic information covering the Springfield area during the war years, we return again to the New Jersey Archives.

The Rev. James Caldwell opened an office in a building Called "The Vauxhall" at 40 Main Street (Millburn) for his duties as Army Quartermaster, and through his headquarters passed negotiations for most of the precious supplies needed by the Americans. 40 Main Street was the hardworking supply heart of the New Jersey campaign. Here were no frills not elegance, only the constant struggle to find shoes, clothing, hospital supplies and food for an impoverished army. A letter from General Maxwell to Mr. Caldwell points up the plight:

"Dear Sir:

My old boots will never keep out wind or water if you can help me to a pair I would come down some day and have my measure taken. I have never had a pair of boots or shoes from the Publick yet, but it seems now that those who

serve the Publick have no other place to go for their necessarys."

On December 17, 1776, the first real trouble here began. On the morning of that day a small detachment under Major Spencer guarding the main road between Chatham and Springfield, was amazed to see a large British force moving on Springfield. Knowing that his group was too small to take on such numbers, Spencer sent a swift messenger back to Chatham to report and get help. Quietly the Americans slipped out of Chatham. One group under Captain Brookfield advanced on the right of Springfield coming through Millburn, or "Vauxhall" as the report called it, probably coming over the path which is the present Hobart Avenue, or the railroad right of way; the other group under Captain Seely came down to the left of Springfield center on the Westfield road. By this time the British had taken possession of Woodruff's tavern, just west of the Church, and were sprawled all over the meadow behind it, the road in front of it, and in the fields across the street where the super markets stand today. The Americans held their fire until they were within pistol shot of the enemy and then they let go. The fighting was terrific and went on for more than an hour, when darkness coming on the Americans withdrew a mile up the road and lay with their arms all night intending to take action again at dawn. In the morning, the British had completely disappeared, and this was the first instance in New Jersey when British troops had turned their backs and fled from the Americans. For the first time the militia realized that their foe was not invincible.

Several minor clashes occurred during the next few weeks. General Washington himself reported them to Congress:

"There have been two or three little skirmishes between their troops and some detachments of the militia in which the latter have been successful and made a few prisoners. The most considerable was on Sunday morning (January 5th) when 8 or 10 Waldeckers were killed and wounded and the remainder of the party 39 or 40 made prisoners with officers?by a force not superior in number and without receiving the least damage." ... This was in Springfield, the Americans led by Major Oliver Spencer.

The British naturally were thoroughly piqued by the results of these engagements, and showed it in a story which appeared on February 10, 1777, in the New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury. The story is clearly a gross exaggeration:

"There are several marauding parties of the Rebels," the story goes, "scattered about the Jersies who rape and plunder the poor inhabitants ... On Saturday the 1st inst. (February 1st a smart skirmish happened at Springfield, New Jersey, between a party of nearly 4,000 rebels under the command of Sullivan, and the 42nd Regiment under Sir William Erskine. The rebels were attempting to pass a hill which would have given them considerable advantage. Sir

William directed his highlanders to dispute the ground. Notwithstanding the great disparity in numbers the rebels soon gave up the point leaving 250 killed behind them. The British lost only 18 in killed and wounded."

It is obvious, today, that no battle of such proportions could have taken place here in February, 1777, but certainly the British Army could not have been expected to report publicly a defeat by a handful of farmers.

The militia were successful, it is true, but as usual in war, the peaceful inhabitants suffer no matter which side wins. The Rev. Caldwell was away on duty during most of these fights. He returned home during the second week of January to find a sad spectacle before him. The houses had been plundered, fences were broken and consumed, gardens laid waste and the fields turned into open commons. Both private and public records had been seized and destroyed.

Regretably enough most of this damage had been done to the patriots' homes by their Tory neighbors. The order then went out that all Tories leave town immediately taking with them only such necessities as could be carried with them. They begged for the customary 30 days notice to remove, but it was denied, and his Majesty's loyal subjects departed for Staten Island and elsewhere.

Except for food raids and occasional clashes, little fighting is reported in the immediate vicinity for some time thereafter, although Millburn men fought wherever needed.

Captain Thomas Parsil of White Oak Ridge Road, buried in the little cemetery there, died on July 4, 1778, from wounds received a few days before in the fighting in Somerset County. Captain Eliakim Littell of Hobart Avenue organized his dashing company at this time also, and so frequently swooped down on British forging parties that they were forced to abandon them for a while, according to counter-intelligence received.

## CHAPTER IX. THE WAR LEAVES MILLBURN AND MANY LOOSE ENDS ARE GATHERED UP

When Sir Henry Clinton woke up on the morning of June 24, 1780, his first thought must have been, "What happened?" How had a militia of farmer boys and men, aided by a few hundred regulars, been able to turn back 5,000 British soldiers with superior arms and experience?

Historians are still debating that question. "Why" they ask, "were so many attacks made on Springfield and vicinity, and then no effort made to push on through?" The situation at Morristown was desperate and the might of the British Army would have prevailed eventually, if they had continued to press.

Perhaps one good reason for the Americans' showing that day is that they were madder. In the mind of every man must have been a picture of his house being burned and his wife murdered. Indeed, a letter written just before the battle states the prevalent feeling:

(General William Irvine to his wife)

"In Camp at Short Hills June 18, 1780" "The enemy is still at Elizabethtown Point 10 miles from here ... We have been here 13 days without tents or baggage, no covering except boughs of trees and bark, but that is cool and pleasant in the heat of the day ... You may think your situation happy indeed my love when compared with that of the poor people of this part of the country. It grieves me beyond expression to see their distressed situation particularly that of the women and children. Murder and rapine await them wherever these barbarians come."

About this time the women and children were sent for safety to Round Hollow on the farm of William Reeve in what would now be Livingston. So it's little wonder then that the men fought with all the fury of which they were capable. The Hessians and other mercenaries on the other hand, who made up the bulk of the British army before Springfield, had been paid to kill, but not to be killed. Their hearts, perhaps, were not really in it. At least two boys, the VanWert brothers, deserted that day, and hid until after their companions had left the area. They are supposed to have hidden in the attic of the Reeve house (now 155 Millburn Avenue, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kahn). Another version of the old story says that they hid in the barn on the Stephen Meeker farm on Glen Avenue near Farley Road, but the house at 155 Millburn Avenue has long been known as "The Hessian House", and majority opinion gives that house the distinction of hiding the boys on the night of June 23, 1780.



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As with the "Old Sow" and "Washington Rock" arguments, we take no sides, but present the two versions for the interest they hold. In any event the VanWert boys settled and married here, and are supposed to be the ancestors of many of that name in this locality.

The name "Van Wert" has been questioned because of its Dutch suggestion. Actually, mercenary soldiers were sent by their rulers from all over Europe. It was one way for a ruling prince to augment his treasury by hiring out his men to any foreign power which might want them. There was at that time, of course, no German Empire. The soldiers who fought for the British in the Revolution came from Westphalia, Waldeck, Hesse, Prussia, Jagern and other places. Westphalia and Holland adjoin. In border towns family names commonly share the nationality of the two countries so that there is no discrepancy about such a surname as VanWert, if that was the name. All these hired soldiers were loosely referred to as "Hessians", although only a part of them actually came from Hesse.

That "boys will be boys" even in the American Army awaiting an attack, comes to us in the diary of a youth of about 18 years of age who ran away from his classes at Yale to join a Connecticut Regiment. He lived to publish his Journal called "A Narrative of Some of the Adventures, Dangers, and Sufferings of a Revolutionary Soldier," by Himself. He eventually found himself in camp waiting for the battle, on the mountain in a place "called the short hills", near Springfield. (Probably in some part of the present South Mountain Reservation). To while away the time, he and his young companions found some high and springy birch, walnut, and hickory saplings, 50 or 60 feet high, growing on the edge of a deep gully. Climbing the trees as high as possible, they would grasp the trunk and swing out over the gully, and as they gathered momentum would go up and down at a great rate until finally they would bend sufficiently to touch the ground, after which they would jump off and the trees would spring back into position.

One morning, however, he writes, the game did not go so well. We'll let him tell the story in his own words:

"One morning while swinging across the gully ... I suppose I was nearly 40 feet from the ground from which distance the tree snapped off short as a pipe stem. I came down feet foremost. The ground was soft so that it left me but little hurt, but I was still holding part of the tree that had broken off firmly in my grasp, and I brought it down with force and weight on my skull which knocked me stiff as a ring bolt. I was out several minutes, and it gave me severe headaches for several days after."

The officer in charge was furious and threatened them with discharge "because of indiscretion and levity".



However, he went through the battle suffering only his severe headaches as his only injury from the Battle of Springfield.

While we are gathering up loose ends in this chapter, we might also report on the probably origin of the name the "Old Sow" for the famous cannon. We are indebted to Dr. Charles Philhower, New Jersey historian, for this information. Dr. Philhower, like most of us, had thought that the name was some sort of affectionate nickname bestowed by the soldiers, until one day while being shown around the grounds of Edinburgh Castle, in Scotland, an old cannon referred to as "The Sow" was shown him. He queried his guide, remarking on the similarity of the name with our own piece. The guide explained to him that that size of cannon was always called a sow, and simply referred to the size of the casting. The iron castings ran directly from the smelting furnace to the troughlike molds, and these molds were either called "pigs" or "sows" depending on their size. A minute's search in any dictionary will verify this fact, which seems like a very logical explanation.

The New Jersey Archives supply some interesting pictures of the other side of the historic struggle. In the first place, in the Spring of 1780, the British were sure that the Americans were ready to give up. A translation of a letter from General Knyphausen to Lord George German on March 27, 1780, says:

"By the best intelligence I have been able to get General Washington's Army of Morristown consists of about 5,000 men besides militia. There has been a great desertion amongst them. Tired of the War and Dissatisfied with depreciated value of their Money a general Discontent Pervades the whole Army."

Other letters and news items point to the fact that Clinton was convinced the Americans would desert or surrender if attacked with any severity. He may also have hoped to draw Washington into battle here so that an army from New York could strike up along the Hudson River and take over the weak river forts.

Washington's forces had just been through a winter in Morristown to rival the months at Valley Forge. The British had only contempt for the untrained militia, boys and old men without military experience, and bitterly resented their methods of fighting without regard to European military rules and tactics. They still could not believe that the Americans meant business, but thought they were influenced by a few agitators. A letter written by a British Officer to the papers June 20, 1780, says:

"as the rebels agreeable to their usual practice have published many glaring falsehoods relative to the movement into Jersey I have been induced from a regard for truth to send you the following account:" ... Then followed a report of

the advance into Connecticut Farms and the fight there on June 7th. He complained that the Americans concealed their mortality statistics, and he excused his men's conduct in the following words:

"While the troops were advancing to Connecticut Farms the rebels fired out of their houses agreeable to their usual practice, from which circumstances Mrs. Caldwell had the misfortune to be shot by a random shell. What heightens the singularity of this lady's unhappy fate is that upon inquiry it appears beyond a doubt that the shot was fired by the rebels themselves as it entered the side of the house from their direction ... The manner in which the rebels aggravate this unfortunate affair in their publication is a piece with their uniform conduct. ... nor is it to be wondered at that a rebellion which is originated in falsehood is prosecuted with deceit. A soldier received with smiles one moment and the following butchered by a set of people who by their clothes can not be distinguished from the quiet inhabitants of the country, he may well be supposed to be exasperated; nor need we be surprised by their use of the torch to dwellings which they find hourly occupied by armed men who either want the generosity or spirit to close the present unhappy contest by a manly open soldierly like position. Whatever may be the humane wishes of the commander, human nature at times steps over the barriers of discipline ... accursed the set of men who from motives of private lucre or inordinate ambition have fanned a flame which if they are willing they are now perhaps unable to extinguish."

According to General Greene's report the Americans at the final battle of Springfield lost 13 men killed, 49 wounded, and 9 missing. The British, according to the American report lost 500 to 700 men in Springfield. These statistics, perhaps, may not be exaggerated as a letter written July 1, 1780, by the commander of the Jagers who had borne the brunt of the militia's vengeance during the retreat to Elizabeth, wrote home to Kassel, Germany,

"I regret from the depths of my heart that the great loss of the Jagers took place to no greater purpose."

But the war for Springfield was over, and in fact, the British soldiers who left that day were the last organized forces to fight in New Jersey. In his "Cockpit of the Revolution" Professor Leonard Lundin of Princeton, writes:

"It is hardly too much to say that the fate of Morristown was more important for the outcome of the war than the fortunes of any other town in the United States, except Albany, and that the Watchung Mountains, of which probably few school boys outside New Jersey, have heard, were of greater significance in the contest than was Breed's Hill." Breed's Hill, of course, is more familiarly known as "Bunker Hill."

The newspapers of the times yield some interesting bits:

On January 16, 1780, an order was made prohibiting all officers, soldiers, militia men and camp followers from pounding or insulting the inhabitants of Staten Island, and all persons possessed of any articles of plunder should immediately deliver same to Rev. Caldwell at Springfield to the end that they may be returned to their proper owners. Order was signed by American Major General Lord Stirling.

Mrs. Washington passed through Springfield on her way to Philadelphia in 1780.

On June 19, 1780, three spies and horse thieves were hanged in Morristown. They were harboured by a Quaker who is now in custody and will receive the reward his conduct deserves.

William Reeve advertised that on June 23, 1780, a dark brown yearling horse colt has strayed from his place in Vauxhall, (June 23d was the day of battle!)

James Caldwell advertises that those who have accounts against him attend for settlement. The loss of so many of his papers makes this the more necessary while circumstances can be remembered, he says, and adds a postscript, "A list of the fortunate numbers in the 3d class of the U.S. Lottery may be seen at Mr. Woodruff's Springfield."

Another notice tells its own story. It is, "Daniel J., a soldier in Baylor's Light Dragoons requested a few months before his death that this method be taken to inform his wife who lives near Springfield, New Jersey, that he was executed the first of May last (1780) at Georgetown in South Carolina for desertion."

One more interesting story of Millburn's war days has come to light. Mrs. John Voorhees of Woodcrest Avenue has in her possession a written account of an incident which took place a few days after the battle. It was told by Jephtha Meeker, son of Timothy Meeker, Junior, to his nephew, Enoch Edwards, and later preserved in the papers of the Burnet family of Newark. The story goes:

A few days after the battle, Timothy Meeker, Jr. a militia sergeant, was repairing his fences along the road, near the old forge, later the Campbell paper mill (now Brookside Drive). All the lots in that vicinity, which would be the land now occupied by the Reservation extending across South Orange Avenue, had been filled with cattle, sheep, and hogs driven up out of the way of enemy, and now returned to their owners. While working, a party of men on horseback approached him, and asked for Timothy Meeker, as they had heard he had besides himself, two sons and four sons-in-law in the battle, and they wanted to talk to him. He told them he was Timothy. They asked him questions

about his opinions, whether there were any Tories in the neighborhood, to which he replied that "no Tory would durst show his face here." They then asked him if people were angry because Washington had not brought his troops into the action. Meeker replied that Washington was right to let the militia fight them, for "we can like em, we can lick 'em," he emphatically stated. On hearing the dinner horn he invited the party to eat with them which invitation was accepted. Finally, after dinner and much discussion about the battle and the war in general, the party left. Just as he mounted, one of the gentlemen turned to Meeker and said, "Friend Meeker, you have treated us with so much hospitality and told your mind so freely, that I thought it would be ungrateful in me to withhold from you who I am." He then disclosed that he was General Washington. Meeker was struck dumb for a moment, but finally replied, "General, I don't know but what I have been spilling wheat, but you must lay it to my ignorance that I have been talking with so much vanity." To which Washington answered, "I know that you spoke the sentiments of your heart."

Sources for Revolutionary War chapters:

New Jersey Archives, Vols. I to IV (New Series), 1776 to 1780.

"New Jersey Historical Collections" Barger and Howe.

Parsil and Presbyterian Church, Springfield, cemeteries.

Map of Battle of Springfield in Springfield's 175th anniversary book by M. Diedrich.

"Revolutionary Scene in New Jersey" by Robert V. Hoffman.

"History of Elizabeth and early Union County," by Rev. David Hatfield Nellie Ross' story, Woman's Club Bulletin, Jan. and Feb. 1939.

The story of Washington's visit to the Meeker family has come from two sources. Mrs. John Voorhees of Woodcrest Avenue has in her possession a written account of the incident. It was supposed to have been told by Jephtha Meeker, son of Timothy Meeker, Jr. to his nephew, Enoch Edwards, and later preserved in the papers of the Burnet family. The other source is in "Pioneers of Old Northfield" by Lillian Collins Cook, a relative of the Meeker and Edwards family.

## CHAPTER X. THE MILLS OF MILLBURN

In the year 1756 a young Scot left Edinburgh for the American colonies. He carried with him a large supply of books, for it was his intention to establish a book store in New York City. He was only 21 years of age, but already had had some experience in his chosen field, as his grandfather, headmaster of St. Andrews Grammar School in Edinburgh, was associated with one of the large publishing firms of Scotland, and the young emigrant had been raised in a bookish atmosphere.

It would have been impossible for him to have guessed, the morning he set sail, that the future of a small corner of the new world would be materially changed by his coming; that he would provide a name for his adopted homesite, and that he would set in motion the machinery which for more than a hundred years would dominate the New Jersey township which he would help to establish. The name of the young man was Samuel Campbell.

After the usual vicissitudes of the long journey by sailing ship to New York, Samuel Campbell and his books arrived safely, and the next thing we know about him he was engaged in the book publishing and selling business in Wall Street in New York, with Evert Duychinck who later became his nephew by marriage.

Some time after his arrival in the new world Samuel Campbell married Euphemia Duychinck, member of an old Dutch family, long time members of old St. Paul's Church at Broadway and Wall Street. They were married by Bishop Moore, President of the young Columbia University. His son, Clement Moore, Professor of Oriental Literature, was destined to become better known through a poem he wrote to amuse his children, "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

As the owners of a prosperous book publishing and selling business, the young Campbells were popular and prominent members of literary circles in New York City, but memories of Scotland must have been always with young Samuel, and also the advantages of owning his own papermill must have occupied a great deal of his thoughts, for some time before the Revolution he made a momentous journey to the Province of New Jersey, seeking land suitable for a papermill and a summer home for his rapidly increasing family.

Paper, of course, was a necessary and very expensive part of his business. It was made from linen rags by a laborious hand operation. Although experiments had been going on in Holland and France for several years in an attempt to make paper by machine, the first really successful machine was not



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produced until 1802 by Henry and Sealy Fourdrinier, in England, and there was little significant development in the use of wood pulp for paper until 1840, so that the paper eventually produced by Samuel Campbell in his papermill on the burn in New Jersey must have been the beautiful and almost indestructible paper on which even to this day has been preserved for us some of the written wisdom and follies of the 18th century.

It was a hazardous journey on which Mr. Campbell embarked from the foot of Wall Street to Elizabethtown. It was not unusual for ships to go down with all hands on board on that journey, or for a vessel to be moved far off course by storm and tide. Even several years later, Elias Boudinot reported in his diary that it took him three hours to make the trip from Jersey City to New York, and then his ship had to land in Brooklyn as the weather did not permit its swinging into its wharf in lower Manhattan.

In Elizabethtown, transportation had to be arranged to carry him into the country to inspect possible sites. At last, in the shadow of the Newark Mountains, in the northeast section of Elizabethtown, known as the "Springfield Ward", he found what he was seeking. It was the nearest thing to Scotland he had seen and there on the site of an old waterwheel and forge, built by one of the first settlers, he chose the spot for his mill. He saw the swift water for his raceway, the small lake for his millpond, the fertile land rising up from the water's edge for his new home, and Samuel Campbell knew that he had found all he wanted. Here his children would be safe from the epidemics of yellow fever constantly plaguing New York, and here he and his children's children would dwell for generations, for whether he knew it or not at the time, Samuel Campbell had come to stay.

On his return to New York, he set in motion the red tape which would obtain for him a grant of more than 120 acres of field, river, hill, and valley from the reigning monarch, George III of England, and in due course of time the grant was received and Samuel Campbell became the owner. Brookside Drive now runs through the Campbell domain. Once Brookside Drive was called simply "the valley road"; on a map of 1850 it appears as "the hollow road", but by 1880 Brookside Avenue was its official name, and a few years later "Drive" was substituted for Avenue. On the early maps, a road, which was probably only a cart path through the woods, connected Campbell's Pond with Old Short Hills Road, and during the Revolution it furnished a rear line of manœuvre and supply for the American watchers on the heights. Today this road is known as "Old Hollow Road", and part of it has been developed for modern living. The Campbell home stood at what would be the corner of "Old Hollow Road", if prolonged, and Brookside Drive.

The Grant also included several acres of meadowland in the Newark meadows bordering on Newark Bay, for the purpose of cutting salt hay there. This practice was very common, and portions of salt meadow were often included in

purchases of upland property. Title to tracts of meadowland has in many instances remained in the presentday heirs of the original purchasers ? a situation which has caused this land to become the subject of much litigation in recent years, due to its increasing value for airport and terminal uses.

However, Mr. Campbell was not to take actual possession of his lands for a long time to come. A war for independence from his Majesty, the grantor of his deed, and a few years of readjustment to a new economy and life were to intervene, until that day in 1790 when at last the large millwheel began its revolutions round and round, moving the water into ever widening circles, and showing the way for other men to come and take advantage of those luxuriant waters.

We do not know what part Samuel Campbell played in the war of the Revolution. As a native of Scotland he certainly had no love for the English ruler, and at least one member of his wife's family, Major John Duychinck was an ardent patriot?a leader of the Middlesex Militia on whom fell some of the first shots of the war from an English man-o-war cruising in the waters off Paulus Hook where Duychinck and his men were stationed. Also, as another evidence of his good standing with the young government, one of his first important contracts for his papermill on the mill burn, came from the Treasury Department?an order for sorely needed banknotes, and the mill on the Raw Way River was soon turning in full production, under government inspection, producing new paper money bearing the imprint of the seal of the Government of the United States of America. The water mark of the paper was the national flower of Scotland?the thistle and for many years the mill was known as "Thistle Mill".

Across the street from his mill Campbell erected his stately home which over a hundred years later (1896) was razed to make room for a public recreation area which we know as "South Mountain Reservation".

By 1790 when Samuel Campbell reached here, the direful consequences of the long war were gradually being settled, and some return to normal living was evident. The great problems of government, money, trade, transportation, education, and the everyday living of ordinary human beings were finding adjustment. Many old familiar faces were gone. The Rev. James Caldwell had been killed by a hasty bullet from a "trigger happy" sentinel guarding the flagboat wharf at the foot of Elizabeth Avenue in Elizabethtown, and his nine children were scattered in foster homes. One, John Edwards Caldwell, had been adopted by the Marquis de Lafayette and was living with him in France. Other wellknown figures had been, as the newspapers of the day said, "decently interred in their graves", and their children and grandchildren were the mature men and women of the community. Many newcomers were seeking homes and work beyond the centers of population of Newark and Elizabeth. The great American habit of moving on was gaining momentum, and by oxcart

and muleteam, horsedrawn barrows, chairs, and chaises, the young nation was on wheels. A chair was a popular two-wheeled passenger cart drawn by one horse; a chaise was a chair with a leather top. In advertisements of Millburn property for sale in the late 1700's, one often reads "together with chair house", which translated into modern language would simply be "together with garage."

So the Campbells came to Millburn and settled down, and catapulted Millburn from an agricultural community into the new Industrial Age which would dominate its life until the close of the first great war of the 20th Century. It is possible that if Samuel Campbell had not been the motivating spirit, someone else would have been, for in New Jersey, everywhere, industry was beginning to boom, and foremost among the new industries were those run by water power.

Richard P. McCormick, in his "Experiment in Independence", (Rutgers Press, 1950), states that in existence in New Jersey at that time (1784-1800), were more than 300 saw mills, 500 grist mills, 40 fulling mills, 80 forges, 8 iron furnaces, several nail factories, slitting mills, and iron and steel mills, but the manufacture of paper was an infant industry for New Jersey. Although some books credit Campbell's with being the first of its kind in the United States, a little further research shows that it was not the first, but was undoubtedly one of the pioneers. After the death of Samuel Campbell, his mill was operated by his son, John, but later was leased to James Clark and Oliver E. Bailey who operated it until it was burned down in the late 1860's.

However, if the Thistle Mill was not the first in the country, it was first for Millburn, but soon it was not the only one. Other men were attracted to the natural resources of this area. By 1800 at least three other papermills were established here, one of which, the Fandango Mill only recently stopped operating.

Exactly who built the Fandango, and when, is not now known, but it is said that a man named Tyler may have built it around the end of the 18th century. That there was a man named Tyler operating a mill along the river here, is borne out by the fact that in the New Jersey (Elizabeth) Journal, in several issues, in 1800, advertisements by Samuel Tyler appear. He operated a fulling mill and advertised, to use his own words,

"The public is informed that the subscriber has put his fulling mill and all things appertaining to it, in better condition than is usually found in this State, and that he has sufficient water at all times, and is now ready to receive the orders of his friends and the public in the line of his business ... assuring them that nothing will be wanting to give satisfaction ... as to neatness, cheapness, and dispatch ... All kinds of blue dyed on linen, or woolen. Springfield, August 11, 1800."



A fulling mill, for the benefit of moderns, was a mill where handwoven cloth could be put in condition for use, blocked, pressed, dyed, etc. Sam Tyler's apprentice boy, Jonathan Winants, ran away from him in June, 1801, and the usual warning appeared in the paper against anyone harboring or employing the boy. Indentured apprentices were better than slaves, in that their servitude would last only for a specified period, but during the time of their indenture their masters had full ownership of them.

In 1810 the Fandango Mill was run by Captain Jonas Wade. Jonas Wade in 1800 was operating a grist mill here, and offered for sale to the public 800 bushels of Indian corn and plaster paris by the ton, or smaller quantity, ground and fine for use. It is possible that his grist mill might have been part of Tyler's mill, as a fulling and grist mill appears at this location on the map of 1764. The name of the Fandango Mill has long been a subject of interest and speculation. One explanation is that on its being reopened in 1895 after a destructive fire, a dance was held in its spacious first floor, and probably the "Fandango" was danced there. However, the name was used by Shaw in his "History of Essex and Hudson Counties", published in 1884, so that the name may go back to another and earlier festivity to celebrate a new ownership.

A mill known as "Columbia Papermill" was for sale in 1800. It is now unidentified, except that it was said to contain the "best head of water and the most extensive privileges of any in that flourishing village," which description would seem to place it along the Rahway River also.

The first structure of the mill we now know as the "Paper Mill Playhouse" was burned, and the site was acquired by Samuel Campbell. A few years later it was purchased and rebuilt by Abraham Parkhurst and his son, Jonathan. It was next owned by Israel D. Condit, but was eventually acquired by the Diamond Mills Paper Co. which ran it until a few years before the theatre took over.

The third very old mill was the one which came to be known as "The Short Hills Paper Mill", or "Wellington Campbell's Mill" which stood on Millburn Avenue near the present Chanticleer. However, this home has been extensively remodeled recently, and no longer bears resemblance to the original house. In fact, the Chanticleer is now housed in Wellington Campbell's home. The mill was built by John Clark to manufacture all kinds of paper, but was sold in 1817 to Thomas Campbell who operated it until his son, Wellington, took it over, first as a lessee in 1839, and later as the heir in 1848. These Campbells were not related to Samuel Campbell. Wellington Campbell married Mary T. Wade in 1844, thus uniting two old mill owner families, the Wades having been millers for many generations. In the 1840's, Mr. Campbell brought over from England an experienced papermill operator-John Hogan. His great grandson, Edward F. Longergan, was until recently Millburn's senior merchant. His store is now

operated by his son, John Longergan.

John Clerk's ownership had a tragic ending. On Thursday evening, April 30, 1800 the entire mill, with all its paperstock, was completely consumed by flames and the New Jersey Journal of May 5, 1800, dutifully reported "by this accident, an industrious and good citizen lost his all, his earnings, and his many years of toil." The paper called on "every philanthropic bosom to expand and contribute to him this aid that their circumstances will admit of."

Another mill, long since destroyed by fire, and its passing unrecorded, is supposed to have been in Millburn near the Springfield line, and is said to have been purchased by Shepard Kollock, of Elizabeth, to supply paper for his many publishing enterprises. Mr. Kollock, a fiery patriot, revolutionary army officer, writer and publisher, kept alive the literary interests of the inhabitants for more than 50 years, beginning about 1775. During the war he started to publish New Jersey's first continuously published newspaper, the "New Jersey Journal and Political Intelligencer", now "The Elizabeth Daily Journal". The paper was first printed on a press in Chatham well hidden from British hands. After the war Mr. Kollock engaged in many literary enterprises, including the "New York Gazeteer", or "Daily Evening Post", and "The Christian's Scholar's, and Farmer's Magazine, Calculated in an Eminent Degree to Promote Religion, to Disseminate Useful Knowledge, to Afford Literary Pleasure and Amusement, and to Advance the Interests of Agriculture, by a Number of Gentlemen."

Whether the magazine accomplished all its ends, is not recorded, but in a day when any literary material was scarce, it no doubt had many avid readers. Many of Mr. Kollock's books, of course, were of a highly religious nature, such as "Dr. Watts' Psalms", "Sermons for Children", and the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson's "Five Points". In all, Mr. Kollock is said to have published about 165 books and pamphlets. In his later years, Mr. Kollock was the Elizabeth Postmaster, appointed by Thomas Jefferson, and for 35 years was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Essex County which at that time included Union County. He died at the age of 88 years, "full", as his epitaph in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Elizabeth, reads "of assurance of a glorious resurrection and blessed immortality." He was certainly one of the important figures of his day, but has now been almost forgotten. In giving him his place among the papermill owners of Millburn we are happy to bring him back from oblivion for this brief moment.

These, then, were the first mills of Millburn. Our history has brought into focus some important names. We have dealt with the Campbells, Parkhursts, Smiths, and some others heretofore. Two others had such a direct influence on Millburn's history that they deserve more than a passing glance? Wooldridge Eaglesfield and Israel D. Condit.

Wooldridge Eaglesfield or "Captain" Eaglesfield, as he is sometimes called,

was born in England, but came here as a youth. He married Phoebe Cooper of Springfield, and died here, a very old man, in 1858. It is said that his was the final say in the choice of his township's name, the name that Samuel Campbell had first called it by? Millburn.

Israel Dodd Condit was born in 1802, the son of Mary Dodd and John Condit of Orange. He began work at the age of 10, and among his first jobs was carrying the mail on horseback from Orange to Newark twice a week. In 1822 he came to Millburn to help his brother, Wicklffe, who was ill, and here he remained throughout the rest of his long life which almost spanned the century. In recent years in Millburn people still remembered him ? a picturesque figure in old age, wearing a long black cape and carrying an ivory-headed cane. He died in 1897.

Four years after Mr. Condit came here he married Mr. Eaglesfield's daughter, Caroline, and sometime later with his brother-in-law, Elijah Smith, purchased the papermill from Mr. Eaglesfield. The young couple, Israel and Caroline, became the progenitors of numerous Millburn citizens. Descendants of almost all of the early settlers married into the Condit family at one time or another, and many are still living here today.

The Eaglesfield-Condit combine was a strong one. The papermill was very successful. They manufactured the large sheets of paper which were used by the New York newspapers, and they also made paper upon which the American edition of the Edinburgh Encyclopedia was published. They acquired title to large tracts of land, some of which remained in their descendants names until recent years. Mr. Condit's later contributions to his community will be dealt with hereafter. His influence on the industrial life of the times was tremendous. In his spectacular career he accumulated great wealth and held many offices in various fields of business, and in State politics, but the severe financial panic of 1873, and the total destruction by fire and flood of his mill, valued at \$100,000, caused him great financial loss, from which he never entirely recovered.

Either Captain Eaglesfield or Mr. Condit, or perhaps both of them, acquired exclusive ownership of the "Wells" patent, a revolutionary method of manufacturing fur hat bodies by machinery, and eventually felt hat making became even more important here than papermaking, and brought many other wellknown names, such as William Pettigrew, Albert D. Traphagen, William Bodwell, and Charles A. Lighthipe, into our history.

Under Mr. Condit's ownership the Eaglesfield-Condit mill changed to fur hat bodies; William Pettigrew's mill, built in 1849, at Church and Main Streets, later known as Graves, produced 30 dozen felt hats daily at the height of its business. Butler's Hat Factory, started by William Bodwell in 1861, at the

corner of Spring and Church Streets; Summer's Hat Factory, erected by Stephen A. Meeker on Spring Street in 1870, later conducted by O.H. Summers; Wickman's near the Springfield line; Edwards on Main Street; William Dillon's on Main Street; Shaw and Duffy's on Ocean Street; Brown's on Main Street, and Fouratt's on Mechanic Street, employed hundreds of people and turned out more than 300 dozen hats or hat bodies a day. The Lighthipe Hat Body Factory once turned out 1800 hats a day. Many of these mills started with water power, but later converted to steam. one more mill should be mentioned to complete the story of Millburn's mills. Reeve's Saw Mill on the Canoe Brook was an important institution since Colonial days. Started by Ezra Baldwin, it descended to Daniel Baldwin, and from him purchased by Abner D. Reeve who built it further downstream. For a while, later, a Mr. E. S. Hidden, operated it as "Canoe Brook Leather Mill", and produced leather boards there, but reverted to its original use under its last owner, George W. Reeve, son of Abner.

In searching into the histories of Millburn's Mills one Thursday evening, April 30, 1800, the entire mill, with all its paper stock was entirely consumed by flames, and the New Jersey Journal of May 5, 1800, dutifully reported that

"by this accident, an industrious and good citizen lost his all, his earnings, and his many years of toil."

The paper called on

"every philanthropic bosom to expand and contribute to him that aid that their circumstances will admit of."

Wade's Binderboard Mill off Main Street at the Springfield line was also built around 1804. It was first a calico mill, then a woolen mill, but was converted to paper by Daniel Denman and Samuel Miller. It passed through a succession of owners until purchased by W. N. Wade in 1871. It was twice burned and rebuilt. Another mill, later known as "Lighthipe's" was also built around 1804 as a cotton mill. It was burned in 1812, but Samuel Parkhurst began manufacturing binderboard there in 1820. Under Israel D. Condit's ownership it became a hat factory, and continued as such by Charles A. Lighthipe, until it was completely destroyed by fire in 1906 and never rebuilt. The Lighthipe Mill was near the present easterly intersection of Main and Essex Streets. Essex Street was not then in existence.

In 1810 Wooldridge Eaglesfield was manufacturing paper in his mill on the Rahway River, a short distance below the present Taylor Park Lake. It is not certain when this mill was built, or by whom, but was later known as "Condit's Hat Factory."

Smith's Binderboard Mill was established about 1822 by the Smith Brothers and stood where the High School Athletic Field now lies. The first Smith, Walter Smith, came here during the first half of the 18th century. His son, William, born in 1754, had 16 children, three of whom? Joseph, John and William? started this mill. Walter was the ancestor of Charles Smith, owner of Smith's Hotel, which stood until the 1930's at the northwest corner of Millburn Avenue and Main Street. Smith's mill was discontinued in 1872. A photograph of it, in its extreme old age, appears in the Centennial History of Millburn.

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## CHAPTER XI. THE YEARS BETWEEN THE REVOLUTION AND THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

The entire last chapter was devoted to the Mills of Millburn because of their great importance and influence on the economic and social development of Millburn of the 19th century. However, while the early 19th century captains of industry were establishing their mills and factories, the ordinary folks of the community were living out their lives; going about their routine daily tasks; and gradually completing the foundations of the settlement which had been begun almost one hundred years before. The mills, naturally, brought an influx of new families seeking work here, although as transportation became simpler, some of the employes commuted to their jobs from outlying towns.

Long before people began referring to the northern section of Springfield as "Millville" or "Milltown", other reference names were used for it. The name "Vauxhall" was commonly used around the time of the Revolution. Attention was called to its use in newspaper advertisements in a previous chapter. Army reports generally meant Millburn when they spoke of "the roads to Vauxhall", in back of Springfield. The name was particularly used for the building at 40 Main Street (present address) where the Rev. James Caldwell, set up, according to legend, his quartermaster headquarters during the War, but why, or by whom it was named it not now known. It would seem obvious that it was named by some English citizen for the famous Vauxhall of London, a popular entertainment place in the 17th century, and it is possible that the Vauxhall or Vaux Hall here, was built as a meeting place for social occasions. This opinion is, of course, only a guess at an explanation.

However, the building must have been important enough for many people to know it, and use it as a point of geographical description; such as, "the road to the Vaux Hall." The only road running east of the present Millburn center was for many years called "Vauxhall Road," and its later extension west of the center was called "Washington Avenue." Both are now "Millburn Avenue."

Another of Millburn's ancient names was "Rum Brook." Cider was an important product of every settlement, and "Jersey Lightnin'" the fermented form of cider, was produced in great quantities. Every river had its cider presses and evidently the Rahway River was no exception. Sometimes, it is said, that the discarded mash, dumped into the river, could be smelled and tasted, and so "Rum Brook" was an apt designation for the village on the shores of the piquant stream. In the "Budget," a Millburn newspaper, in its issue of August 4, 1886, there appears an obituary of Mrs. Esther McChesney, who had just died at the age of 91 years. The Obituary reads that she was born, and resided in Millburn all her life, or "in Rum Brook, as it was then called."



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The name "Riverhead" appears without explanation in some history books as an old name for Millburn. This name for Millburn does actually appear on a map of Jefferson Village (Maplewood) made in 1815, by Cyrus Durand, who lived nearby, and the name is certainly understandable as a literal description of a center in 1783, and it was also a stage coach stop and important gathering place for social life and news.

On May 27, 1793, the New Jersey Legislature set off from the Townships of Elizabeth and Newark certain lands to be henceforth known as "The Township of Springfield" in which Township, of course, Millburn was included, so that at last the community had its own legal name? Springfield. On April 14, 1794, its own own government was set up in the inn of Abraham Woolley. Many old Millburn names appear in the list of the first governing officials? Baldwin, Morehouse, Denman, Wade, Squier, Lyon, and Meeker. However, no Post Office was established until 1801 and people were still dependent on the traveler or stagecoach driver for their mail. It was the custom for the Post Office at Elizabeth to advertise in the New Jersey Journal that it was holding mail for the addresses, who could wither call for it personally, or have it picked up by an obliging friend.

In 1801 the first chartered turnpike in New Jersey was created, known as "The Morris Turnpike." Subscriptions were sold at the rate of \$25.00 a share, subscription books to receive same being kept open at private homes in Morristown, Newton and the home of Joseph Lyons in Elizabeth. A deposit payment of only \$1.00 was required. For the first time the inhabitants and the millowners had a good road to the cities if they were willing to pay toll. of course, many circumvented the payment of toll by "shunning the Pike" and roads to this day known as "Shunpike" roads became very popular. One of these roads is still located south of the Morris Turnpike in Springfield and is still called "Shunpike Road". However, the Turnpike was profitable and a first dividend of 55¢ a share was paid in 1807. Toll gates were located on Morris Turnpike near the present Canoe Brook Road, and near the corner of Springfield Avenue and Morris Turnpike. The Turnpike connected Springfield with Elizabeth, Morristown, Newton, and Phillipsburg and the road beyond the Delaware River in Pennsylvania. Its principal purpose was to bring down the products of the iron mines of northern New Jersey to ships in Elizabeth harbor.

After the Morris Turnpike, other turnpikes were chartered and the system of roads for which New Jersey is now famous became established. The Newark? Springfield Turnpike was cut through in 1806 and Millburn Avenue was extended to meet it. For other toll payments, easier access could be had to Newark and adjacent towns. A toll gate was located at the present junction of Millburn and Springfield Avenues. Before Springfield Avenue was laid out, the quickest way to Newark was down Millburn Avenue (then called Vauxhall Road) to "the road through the valley" (Ridgewood Road), and then across that road to South Orange Avenue where a small hamlet known as South Orange

was located. South Orange Avenue ran from Ridgewood Road to Newark, and was the third road built by the Newark settlers to the mountains; the first being the present West Market Street and Main Street to Orange, and the second, the road across to South Orange Avenue from Main Street, Orange, now known as "Valley Street" in West Orange, and "Ridgewood Road" in South Orange.

The home of Joseph Riggs at the northwest corner of Ridgewood Road and South Orange Avenue was the terminus for several of these roads. Ridgewood Road and also Valley Street (Maplewood) eventually connected Millburn with South Orange Avenue.

Later on, but before Millburn Avenue was cut through to Springfield Avenue, another way to Newark was favored. Travelers followed the path down Millburn Avenue to the present Valley Street, turned left on Valley Street to the present Tuscan Road, then right on Tuscan Road to the present apex of Maplecrest Park, where a small settlement known at various times as "North Farms", "The Harbor", "Middleville" and "Hilton" was located. There the travelers continued east to Newark. When toll was charged for the Springfield Avenue Pike, Valley Street to South Orange became the shunpike of that section, and was so known for many years.

People began to have a little more fun, and one reads of barn raisings, quilting bees, and even parties just for pleasure. Captain Joseph Horton was the Township poet, and was usually toastmaster at the barnraisings. Food, of course, was the principal entertainment offered to guests, and Captain Horton, never at a loss for a poem to celebrate a momentous occasion, did not mind using his talent for criticizing food, if it did not meet with his approval. F. W. Ricord in his "History of Union County" tells that on one occasion, Poet Horton's hostess was stingy, and used rye flour, instead of white flour, so the toast went something like this:

"Potpie made of rye and mutton was the meat. Rough enough, and tough enough and not half enough to eat."

His hostess' name and reaction to the toast are not recorded. At the next party things were decidedly better, and the toastmaster responded in these words:

"Potpie not made of rye but of the finest wheat, Chicken all, both large and small, and fit for kings to eat."

Captain Joseph Horton had been a soldier in the late war, and so apparently the wrath of a neighbor-hostess had no terror for him. He lies buried among the Revolutionary heroes in Springfield Cemetery.



A reading of the newspapers of the period give other intimate glimpses into the lives of the ordinary folks of Millburn. Eight sheep belonging to Watts Reeve of Vauxhall (now the Wyoming Section) strayed from his pasture, 3 of them "hobbled" by a leathern strap." Jacob Ogden fell overboard and drowned in (New) York Bay, on his way to Elizabeth from New York City; Napoleon's triumphs in Europe provided stirring news, and Samuel Campbell lost his liver-spotted pointer dog named "Carlo" for which he offered \$2.00 reward. Mr. Campbell also advertised for a "boy of good morales as an apprentice to learn the papermaking business"; and Jonas Wade's mulatto man ran away from him. Mr. Campbell offered more reward for Carlo, than Jacob Ross offered for the return of his apprentice boy, 4 feet 3 inches high.

The New Jersey Journal which was the paper usually read by the people here carried a long article condemning the reduction of our Navy from 154 sails of the line in 1799, to 138 sails of the line in 1800; and a statement of the total receipts of the United States of America for the year ending September 30, 1800, showed that \$15,262,161.75 had been received during the year, \$59,050.43 of which had come from New Jersey.

War with Spain and England was greatly feared; a bowlegged Negro man named Cuff, 22 years of age, ran away from F. DelaCroix of this town, and Sally Smith eloped from her husband in August, 1801.

Subscriptions to the newspapers were paid for in merchandise, and Mr. Kollock, the editor, pleaded with those who promised him wood in return for his paper, to please deliver it to him. Two sloops to New York owned by Job Haines and William and Elias Dayton, began to make 3 or 4 weekly trips to New York; and a Wax Works Museum opened in Elizabeth on Christmas Day, 1805.

George Washington passed through Elizabeth on April 30, 1789, on his way to his inauguration in New York. Crowds journeyed from all over the State to see him pass by. He was met some distance out of town by a guard of honor headed by Captain Wade, and escorted by Captain Meeker, (both old Millburn names) to the home of Elias Boudinot, after which he embarked by sloop to New York City.

The Nicholas Parcel Estate sold off 30 acres of wood and timber on White Oak Ridge Road; the "Cordial Balm of Gilead" was advertised as the "best cure for lowness of spirits, debility, and consumption", and if you bought a bottle you could also buy for \$1.00 the "Guide to Health" which contained instructions on "how to care for fits, Flatilence of Wind, Hypochondriac, Juvenile Indiscretions, and Scurvy." One of the best places to buy materials entailed a short journey to North Farms (now the Maplecrest section of Maplewood where one could purchase "Orleans cloth, swansdown, frize, bairdseye, striped calimancoes, boiled comblets, Jaconet muslin, shaloons, ratinetts, deep blue and drab

broadcloth, and soal leather, all at the best prices."

Group singing was a popular pasttime, and on a shopping expedition to Newark one could buy at W. & E. Hill's, 166 Broad Street, sheet music for such tender and melancholy ballads as "I'd Weep for Thee", "Oh, Do Not Forget, Love!", "Say, my Heart, Whence Comes This Anguish", "O'er the Sea in my Fairy Baot", "Oft in the Stilly Night" or the popular glees, "Our Old Tom Cat", and "Corn Cobs."

On June 6, 1805, a meeting of the Fourth of July Celebration Committee was held. Aaron Hand was Chairman, and his committee consisted of Samuel Parkhurst, Uzal Wade, J. Dean, Caleb Woodruff, Philip Denman, and Captain John Smith. Walter Smith was designated to bear the cup of Liberty in the parade; Oliver Wade to read the Declaration of Independence, and David Baldwin to deliver the oration. Descendants of some members of this committee are still living in Millburn in 1957.

On the other side of the picture, the good old days were not always so good. Men, Women, and children were still being sold as slaves ? New Jersey was one of the last States to eliminate slavery?and during these years advertisements, such as the following, were common:

"Strong, handsome Negro wench, 19 years old, with a beautiful female child, six months old on the bottle, very healthy ... can sew, spin, had had the smallpox and measles." (New Jersey Journal).

"For sale, good black girl, about 20 years of age, sober, honest, healthy and active." (New Jersey Sentinel of Freedom (!) 1815.)

And a man was advertised for sale at Public Auction at the Court House in Newark. The man was said to be in stout health, 31 years of age, understood farming, a good hostler, and an excellent waiter. The only reason to dispose of him was that he was given to "intoxication which makes him impertinent and unruly." These are only three of numerous advertisements picked from the local New Jersey papers of the times.

Hanging was still the penalty for murder in New Jersey; a sentence of 39 stripes on the bare back was inflicted by the Essex County Court for stealing horsehide; and two years imprisonment was meted out for stealing a silver watch.

"Agressions on our trade and commerce" were committed by the British; the Port of New York was blockaded; and the War of 1812 was fought and won. At least two local names appear in the list of fighting men?Aaron Vreeland Ross and Captain Enos Baldwin.

Religion began to occupy a more prominent role in people's lives. At the end of the Revolution formal religion and attendance at services had reached a low ebb. The strong Presbyterian Church, whose clergy had been among the foremost patriots, had suffered severe blows. Its churches were chief targets of British vengeance, and many of them, such as those of Springfield, Elizabeth, and New Brunswick, were in ruins, and their congregations disrupted and scattered. The congregations of the Episcopal Church which had been the established church of England, suffered through their loyalty to the Crown, and all but three of their ministers had left New Jersey, most of them having returned to England. However, their buildings were intact, and a reorganization gradually took place of those churches which had closed because their ministers could not in good conscience, omit the prayers prescribed for the King.

The Springfield Presbyterian Church, burned in 1780, was rebuilt in 1791. This building is the same structure which is still standing today. The Rev. Jacob Van Arsdale continued to be Pastor until 1801.

During this period the smaller evangelical denominations made great headway; itinerant preachers found many adherents, and small chapels sprang up in many towns. Foremost among these was the Baptist Society. The first converts of Millburn joined the Lyons Farms (now Weequahic Section of Newark) Church, but it was eventually realized that the distance was too great to be traveled constantly, and services were held in homes here, and in the section known as "Canoe Brook" now part of Livingston. In an extremely rare book "Materials Toward a History of the Baptists in New Jersey" by Morgan Edwards, a copy of which was owned by Dr. Charles Philhower of Westfield, the story appears that in 1786, in the waters of "Cannue Brook" a number of converts were baptized. Among them were Timothy Meeker, William Meeker, Moses Edwards, and members of their families, besides members of the Cory, Cook, Ward, and Forse families. The Rev. Rejeune Runyon was on hand to preach a sermon for the occasion, and the newly baptized converts and others, formed the congregation called "The Cannue Brook Baptist Society." Many Millburn families belonged to this church until the Millburn Baptist Church was formed in 1858.

A Sunday School, which may have been the first in New Jersey, in point of continuous operation, was started in 1818 by the Misses Kate and Elizabeth Campbell, and their cousin, Miss Duychinck, in the wash-house of the Campbell Estate on Brookside Drive. This Sunday School is said to have become immediately popular here, and was later taken over as an organization of the Springfield Presbyterian Church. The first Sunday School in the United States was started in 1791 by the Quakers of Philadelphia, and in New York in 1816 a Women's Society was formed for the promotion of such work. In 1815 Sunday Schools were started in Newark and Trenton, but they did not become

affiliated with any church and hence passed out of existence. The American Sunday School Union was not founded until 1824, so that Millburn's Sunday School of 1818 was a novel and foresighted development, and actually one of the first in the entire country.

One of the important events of these years was the return on September 23, 1824, of General Lafayette, and his reception in Elizabeth, to which every community sent representatives to take part in the parade in his honor. A description of the decorations gives some idea of the tremendous importance of this event:

"The old State Bank Building on Broad Street (Elizabeth) was adorned with a transparency on top of which appeared the words 'Welcome Lafayette'; underneath was a group of 24 stars representing the United States; immediately below was an eagle which grasped in its talons an olive branch, and a bunch of arrows. In the middle appeared 'Hero of Liberty 1777'. The Court House displayed a transparency which showed Lafayette's home, 'La Grange' ... In Front of General Jonathan Dayton's home was erected an arch ... on which was inscribed 'Lafayette, Hero of Liberty, Friend of Washington' ... Stretched across Broad Street from Meeker's store to the City Tavern, was another triumphal arch. Another arch was erected in front of the Union Hotel and extended to a flag staff in the middle of Broad Street, opposite the Court House; and at the dinner that night 13 regular toasts and 10 volunteer toasts were offered and drunk." (N.J. Historical Society Proc. 14 p. 473 (1929).

A good time seems to have been had by all. In these last two chapters we have attempted to show what the people of the future Millburn were doing during the years between the end of the Revolutionary War and the coming of the railroad in 1837, which was certainly the biggest thing to happen to Millburn since the battle of Springfield. our next chapter will deal with the building of the railroad and its impact on our history.

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## CHAPTER XII. THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

It is almost impossible for the people of 1957 to realize that until at least 1830, and for many years after that, in some quarters, transportation by water, particularly by canal, seemed to be the only solution to the problems of traveling and shipping. The value of coal as a fuel was becoming evident as the forests of the eastern seaboard disappeared and charcoal for the iron smelters and furnaces became scarcer. In New Jersey 39 forges and furnaces had to be abandoned for lack of the necessary fuel. Soft coal was considered the vital answer. The first anthracite coal sent to Philadelphia in 1806 was mostly thrown away as it was deemed too difficult to ignite. How to get the coal from the mines to the mills was an agitating question.

Practical railroads at this time, of course, were not generally in use in the United States. The rivalry between Robert Fulton and John Stevens of Hoboken had produced a superior steamboat which was not only seaworthy, but an exciting novelty. Stevens' "Little Juliana" built soon after Fulton's "Claremont" employed for the first time new principles of propulsion?high pressure steam, an engine connected with the propeller shaft, and twin screws?principles still employed in steamships today. Mr. Stevens' originals may be seen now in the Smithsonian Institute. Stevens' first step was to design a boat large enough for commercial uses, and in the Spring of 1808 the "Phoenix" was launched at Hoboken. Soon every town of any size along the New Jersey coast, even towns like Rahway, Keyport, and Red Bank, were running steamships to New York and other ports.

To reach these steamboats transportation across New Jersey, became imperative. The old stage coaches and stage wagons operating on the fine new turnpikes continued to be clumsy, backbreaking and downright dangerous until after the War of 1812 when the new post coaches came into general use. These were capable of carrying 10 passengers, if one sat outside with the driver; had leather springs, and provided more commodious space for baggage. However, the frequent complaint was that the body was actually too small to carry nine passengers, and was so loosely suspended that the frequent "bobbing" caused seasickness. The invention of the new flat-topped vehicle "The Concord wagon" in 1830, was, therefore, hailed with delight and conceded to be the only perfect vehicle, and at last people could travel freely in some comfort by Concord wagon and steamboat from one state to another.

The Conestoga wagon was the freight train of the times. Shaped like a boat, it had a curved bottom which kept the load firmly in place. The rear wheels, larger than the front, were five or six feet high, with iron tires six inches broad. Drawn by six Conestoga horses, massive and powerful, and something like Percheron or "brewery" horses, a fleet of Conestoga wagons was a sight. The



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harness and gears were often embellished with bright colors and gay bells. The owners and drivers would spare no pains in decorating their equipment, and imaginations sometimes ran wild. Tar buckets to grease the axles, and water pails clanged and slopped their contents from their suspensions on the rear axles. A Conestoga wagon could carry as much as 28 barrels of flour, or six tons of commodities, a ton to a horse was the rule, and they often traveled in groups. Most of us today know the Conestoga wagon only as the "prairie schooner" of our movie viewing, stalked by Indians, scurrying across the Plains to a western rendezvous, but Millburn children of the early 1800's knew it intimately. One wagon with six horses stretched out to a length of 60 feet, so that a fleet passing through Springfield from Sussex and Hunterdon Counties to the cities, or even leaving Millburn's papermills, must have been a sensation and pure delight to the youngsters of those days.

It might be interesting to our readers to learn that through the Conestoga wagons, New Jersey was one of the first States to adopt the "keep to the right" law of the roads. Previously the Americans had followed the English custom of keeping to the left, when passing a vehicle, but the Conestoga teamster was always on the left, astride the wheelhorse, walking at the left side, or riding the "laxy" board. In order to give the driver a clear view of the road, unobstructed by his own team or vehicle, it was necessary for his wagon to keep to the right, and soon other vehicles adopted this custom. In 1813 the New Jersey Legislature ordered carriages on public roads and turnpikes to keep to the right.

But even perfect Concord or Conestoga wagons could not carry iron and coal, and these were becoming more important than human passengers. New Jersey's rivers were not navigable far into the interior. Furthermore, the products of the mills were no longer designed only for local markets. Cities were becoming industrial centers and were hungrily clamoring for iron, coal, lime, stone, paper, and other basic materials. The farmers, too, began to get requests to supply the cities' populations with large quantities of goods. Business men began to see the advantages of canals. The Erie Canal, opened in 1825, was a tremendous achievement, and a system of canals across New Jersey, linking the interior with the sea, not only were envisioned, but eventually became actualities.

A great controversy raged when the route of the Morris Canal was being decided. The Canal was principally the brain child of George P. McCulloch of Morristown, who dreamed of connecting the upper Delaware River country with seaports near New York. The question was, should it come through Morristown to Elizabethport, or by way of Boonton to Newark. The former way would undoubtedly have placed Springfield or Millburn on the canal, and perhaps the railroad would never have come here. As we've noted before, the if's of history rest on such small decisions. But the canal went through Boonton and Rockaway to Newark, and Millburn's papermills were still dependent on

antiquated wagons to haul their products to sloops at Newark or Elizabeth.

The canals were hardly established, however, when it became evident to discerning men that a third great shift in means of transportation in New Jersey was inevitable. The first great change had been the wide use of wagons and coaches as roads were laid out; then by steamboat and canalboat people and their goods began moving; now business men were looking with interest on what John Stevens was doing in Hoboken, New Jersey. Stevens, called "the Father of American Railroads", was the son of the James Stevens who had invented the modern principles of steamship propulsion. In 1825 John was successfully running the first American steam locomotive on a circular track at Hoboken at the incredible speed of six miles an hour, later achieving twelve miles an hour, and effectively demonstrated the practicality of the new fangled idea. Mr. Stevens was a true inventor in that he was more interested in his ideas than in personal gain. He knew the importance of his invention and was primarily desirous of having the Federal government or the State take over the building and operation of a railroad. Stevens stumped the State and sent out countless broadsides beseeching the Legislature to grant a franchise across the State, but the canal and stagecoach interests and lobbies were powerful still, and at first nothing came of his efforts. He was finally successful, however, and the Camden and Amboy Railroad was chartered. In 1831 it ran its first train and it began to look as if the railroad were here to stay.

Meanwhile, successfully established in Millburn, with thriving papermills on his hands, was Israel D. Condit. He knew that business expansion could only come if means of shipping his products cheaply and quickly out of Millburn could be arranged. The canal was not available to Millburn. As an enterprising business man Mr. Condit must have either known Mr. Stevens personally, or had read and heard his many appeals for a railroad.

It might be presumed that he had visited the Hoboken proving grounds and seen the little engine performing its miracles. It is also quite possible that he was acquainted with another man of the day who was an authority on steam engines, and on the principles of most all branches of engineering. That person was Jones Renwick, Trustee of Columbia University, and Professor there of Experimental Chemistry and Natural Philosophy. He was the biographer of Robert Fulton, and also numbered among his important publications, a "Treatise on Steam Engines" published in 1830. James Renwick's granddaughter, Elizabeth Renwick, was destined to marry Israel D. Condit's grandson, Walton Whittingham, in Millburn many years later. Unfortunately, no one now alive can positively tell the author of Millburn's history in 1957, that these men were personally acquainted in 1830, but the historian is occasionally allowed to make a simple deduction in gathering up the loose threads of the tapestry of history, and we avail ourselves of this privilege here.



Mr. Condit, his cousin, Lewis Condi(c)t, (probably a cousin) who became the first President of the Morris and Essex, and the other men desiring to form a railroad, business men from Newark, Morristown, Madison, and New York, get in Newark frequently to discuss their ideas for a railroad to connect Morristown with tidewater. They would certainly have sought expert advice. The expert advice could have come from Professor Renwick, the Stevens family, or the inheritors of Fulton's ideas, and no doubt a young man with a machine shop in Newark, Seth Boyden, who was struggling to improve these new principles. At last, on January 29, 1835, seven members of the group, James Cook, William N. Wood, William Brittin, Jephtha P. Munn, John I. Bryans, Isaac Baldwin, and Israel D. Condit, were granted a charter by the New Jersey Legislature to construct a railroad from Morristown to some point in Essex County contiguous to tidewater. One of the main objects was to connect with the New Jersey Railroad (now the Pennsylvania Railroad) at either Center Street, Newark, or Elizabeth. Israel D. Condit also served on the first Board of Directors of the New Morris and Essex Railroad on its corporate organization. Jonathan Parkhurst was also a director.

In Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society (Vol. 1 (H.S.) p. 60), the story of the first days of the M. & E. Railroad, taken from its first records, are recounted. In the first report printed by the M. & E. the Directors asked and answered two questions, One, "Is it practicable to construct a railroad from Morristown to some point in Essex County"?, and Two, "Can such a road be constructed at that expense so that the transportation of passengers and products may offer a fair and reasonable remuneration to those who may embark on it?"

Two routes were proposed, one, from the Pennsylvania lines at Center Street, Newark, along Broad Street to Essex Avenue, and through the Oranges to Millburn, Chatham, Morristown; the other through Vauxhall, Irvington, and Union to Elizabeth and Avon Avenues, Newark, then along Clinton Avenue to Broad Street, and so on down to the Pennsylvania station. The estimate for the first route was \$219,000.00; for the second, \$217,000.00, to be raised by public subscription to the stock. However, it seems that the people of Millburn and the Oranges were more willing to invest their money, and so eventually the railroad came here as we know it today. The heavy investments of at least five members of the Condit family, and several Dodd family members, (Mr. Condit's mother was a Dodd), who subscribed over 2,000 shares, and Millburn's Jonathan Parkhurst who bought 355 shares, besides some lesser subscriptions to names familiar in Millburn, seem to indicate Mr. Condit's good promotional work.

The contract for the actual building of the Morris and Essex was signed by the Railroad with Ephraim Beach and Abraham Brittin. Article 10 of the contract is worth noting:

"Article 10. For the preservation of peace and good order to prevent riots and brawls, and other disturbances along the line of this work, it is mutually agreed that no ardent spirits nor any kind of intoxicating drinks shall be permitted by the contractors who hereby pledge themselves to use all proper endeavor and to exert their best influence to prevent its introduction and use among the laborers employed upon the work."

Whether because of this clause or not, the work seems to have proceeded fairly rapidly for the line was finished to orange in November 1836. The first cars were horsedrawn to that station. However, the engineers struggled with the problem of getting the cars over the first hill (now the Roseville Avenue station), and the Millburn mountain to the summit of the short hills (now Summit), and Seth Boyden at last did it, and a trial run was made to Millburn on August 2, 1837. The "Morristown Jerseyman", ran an account of it in their next issue:

"NEW LOCOMOTIVE ? Our old friend, Seth Boyden, esq., of Newark has manufactured a locomotive engine for the Morris and Essex Railroad, which far exceeds his most sanguine expectations. On Tuesday of last week he made a trial on our Railroad, and came as far as Millville, one mile North of Springfield, with about 200 passengers. Between Newark and the Morris Canal crossing, the road rises 130 feet to the mile, which the engine ascended with the train of cars at a rapid rate, and at a fair trial of her speed, with the passengers, she went at the rate of sixty or seventy (six!)\* miles per hour. Mr. Boyden has made several valuable improvements one of which is, the passengers are wholly protected from the fire which usually escapes from the chimney the sparks being taken to the ashpan underneath.

"It was quite amusing to witness the excitement produced among the horses and cattle in the neighboring fields, by the novel spectacle; and even some of the more intelligent natives opened their mouths and threw up their hands in mute astonishment as the train passed them."

\*(Note: The speed of the train was either a gross exaggeration, or a typographical error for six or seven miles an hour).

The Morristown paper strangely enough omitted to report a catastrophe during the trial run. The same foregoing Morristown Jerseyman article above contains a bitter denunciation of those persons who refused either to give away or sell land for the right of way.

However, the Newark Daily Advertiser of August 3, 1837, does not omit the factual details of the tragedy occurring during the trial run.

"LAMENTABLE CATASTROPHE?A pleasure excursion was shockingly

terminated yesterday, Wednesday, August 2nd, in this city (Newark). The Morris and Essex Railroad having completed to Millville, some 10 or 12 miles from Newark by the route, and within about a mile of Springfield, a party of citizens occupying two cars traversed the track with a new locomotive just finished in this city by Mr. Seth Boyden. While the party were enjoying a short respite, on the return, at the Orange depot, the two cars then unoccupied, were by some irregular movement so brought into collision as to derange the draw bar (or connecting tackling) of one of them. The damage was sufficiently repaired (it was thought), in a few minutes, and the party resumed the trip to Newark?the locomotive on the return pushing the cars from the rear. Everything went well until after we entered the city, when, in turning the curve into Broad Street, the draw bar of the second car is supposed to have slipped from its proper square position against that of the forward car?by which alone we were propelled?to the right side of it, being an inch or so from the proper center. We proceeded in this way down Broad Street without a knowledge of the derangement, perhaps a fourth of a mile, when the forward car left the track by an easy turn to the left, the speed of the train having been considerably diminished as it was within a few yards of the termination. Notwithstanding that there was not at the moment the slightest appearance of danger, to many of us at least who were in the car, two individuals on the outside imprudently jumped off, and we deeply regret to say were both killed. Mr. Robert W. Ward .. of Newark .. was killed instantly. He was on the front of the car, and in attempting to jump, missed his aim and fell before the wheels, which passed across his breast and stomach, taking life without so much as breaking his skin...

"The other unfortunate individual was Mr. Ezra Crane, a respectable farmer of Orange. He jumped from the rear of the car, just as the last wheels had left the railway, and fell directly in the rear of the car and locomotive, shockingly mangling and breaking his right arm and hand, and fatally wounding him internally. The left hip was disjoined and several flesh wounds made in different parts of the body. He was taken up and carried into Mr. A. K. Ward's store ... when Doctors Darcy of Newark and Pierson of Orange, Directors of the Company, who were both of the party afforded every practicable aid, but in vain. He died in an hour, retaining his senses to the last..."

"The car which was driven from the track, was stopped without much sensible concussion against the sidewalk at the corner of Broad and Lombardy Streets."

The engines first took water at Millville (Millburn) drawing it from a pond alongside of the brook. This was probably the pond which was just south of Jonathan Parkhurst's mill, and which is now the Papermill Playhouse. However, when the line finally reached Summit, it was found that the train could not make the grade over the Millburn "Mountain" with a full load of water, so that Stephen Vail of Morristown built an ingenious device at Summit by

which the engine itself could pump water from a well. Two large wheels were sunk below the track and in line with the rails, so that the driving wheels of the locomotive would rest on those of the sunken wheels; the engine was then lashed with chains and the driving wheels revolved the large wheels which were mounted on a shaft connected with the water pumps.

For many years, after the trial run, the story is told that Roger Marshall of Millburn was called out with his teams of oxen or horses to assist the cars and engine up and over the hills during snowstorms. No positive proof of this tale has been found, but such stories trickle down from one generation to another and the germ of truth lies somewhere in them. The great difficulty of running a railroad over steep hills is not a legend, however, and Roger Marshall and his team seem to have been called on constantly to perform all kinds of services so he would have been the likely man to pull a train out of a snowdrift.

The Morris and Essex Railroad was eventually completed to Morristown on January 1, 1838, and the entire cost for building it from Newark to Morristown was said to be \$300,000. The construction of the track was simple enough. Mudsills of native oak or chestnut were laid longitudinally along the road bed and held in position by crossties about 3 feet apart. Upon these, the wooden rails, usually of Norway pine, six inches wide and six inches thick, were laid, and over the wooden rails iron straps 3-1/4 inches by 5/8ths inches thick were fastened to form the tracks. The estimate of the yearly costs was a simple matter of bookkeeping. It was figured that a year's income would be \$49,000.00, the expenses, \$20,000.00, leaving a neat profit of \$29,000.00 to be divided among the stockholders. Four cars cost \$750.00 each, and the engines cost \$5,000.00 each. For years Seth Boyden made the repairs himself. One bill was for \$2.50 for repairs after running over a horse; and another bill was for \$3.00 when a cow was struck. John T. Cunningham in his "Railroading in New Jersey" says that the first freight was a load of soap and flour carried in 1838 from Newark to Morristown with "Orange" pulling and "Essex" pushing.

But despite the frugality in costs of operation, the M. & E. became insolvent, and was sold under foreclosure in 1842. It was soon reorganized, however, and successful years followed.

The line was extended to Dover in 1848; reached the Delaware River in 1851 where it entered into strong competition with the Morris Canal, and in 1857, the year Millburn was incorporated as a Township, the M. & E. was given permission by the Legislature to extend its lines to Hoboken which it finally reached in 1862 after an arduous construction job in bridging the rivers. Tunneling through Bergen Hill was completed in 1877.

The first travelers were of hardy stock. They had little shelter from the rain and wet cushions were common. Sometimes they had to get out and push in icy

weather, and sometimes the train came to a halt to permit cows, pigs, or geese to move off the tracks. They helped put out fires along the right of way caused by their sparks and always there was the constant menace of the flat iron strap rails breaking away from the wooden tracks and piercing the bottoms of the cars and their own anatomies. These upshooting rails were known as "snakeheads" and were feared enough to cause some passengers to stand all the way. Luggage was stored in a box underneath the car. At first the cars stopped almost anywhere one wished, but later regular stops were made at Roseville, East Orange, Orange Junction, Brick Church, Orange, Valley Street, Montrose, South Orange, and Millburn. However, the scenery was described as "grand and beautiful", and riding the train was a daily adventure in courage, patience, and hardiness.

Seth Boyden's first locomotives met different ends. The "Orange" was burned in 1867 in a machine shop in orange Street, Newark, and the "Essex" completed its life on the Iron Railroad of Ohio.

Another Millburn resident, well known in his day, had a powerful influence in the incorporation of many small railroads into the mighty Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western system. That man was Moses Taylor. Mr. Taylor was President of the National City Bank of New York and for many years spent his summers in Short Hills commuting here from New York even before 14.

the days the railroad came here, by train to Newark, and then by his own horse and carriage to his home on Morris Turnpike, now known as the "Brant" house. Mr. Taylor had long roots in Millburn. His mother was Martha Mary Brant, daughter of Samuel Brant. She married Jacob B. Taylor. Both the Brants and the Taylors were old Millburn residents, one of them, James Brant, probably Moses' great-uncle, being credited with having fired the first warning salvo from Old Sow heralding the battle of Springfield in 1780. Martha's brother, Samuel, married Mehitable Wood, thus uniting the Taylor, Brant, and Woods families. The Brant and Wood houses are still standing on Morris Turnpike today.

As President of a big city bank, Mr. Taylor presumably had many connections among industrialists all over the country, and one of his pet projects was to sell them on the advantages of anthracite coal. He is said to have given away carloads to advertise its value as a fuel. That he succeeded is well known now, and the D.L. & W. eventually became as familiar for its nickname, "The Road of Anthracite", ridden by the spotlessly gowned Phoebe Snow, as it was by its proper name. Mr. Taylor and his friend, Sam Sloan, purchased quantities of stock in various small railroads, and eventually one line after another was leased or purchased by the Lackawanna. The Morris and Essex was leased to it in 1868, and became part of the great route from New York to the Great Lakes.

Mr. Taylor left no diary detailing his daily trips, but another commuter, Edwin A. Ely of Livingston, who journeyed daily to New York via the Orange Station during the latter part of the 19th century, in his "Personal Memoirs", paints the picture for us. The Cortlandt Street ferry brought Mr. Ely to the New Jersey Railroad Station in Jersey City where he took the train for Newark. One or two cars of the Morris and Essex were usually connected to the back of the train. At Newark, the cars were disconnected, hitched to horses, and drawn through Broad Street to the M. & E. tracks. There another steam engine took over, and they would start on their westward journey. The engineer, says Mr. Ely, after leaving Newark, would turn on a mighty head of steam, and rush toward the Roseville Avenue hill at furious speed, hoping that the momentum would carry them to the summit, but the momentum was always spent and the power was almost certain to fail before the top was reached, so that the engineer was compelled to back down to level ground again to gather strength for another attempt. Mr. Ely says that seldom did the train make the crest of the hill on the first try. Since 1905 the roadbed has run through Roseville in a cut at depressed grade, so the commuter is spared this daily test of his locomotive's power.

Israel D. Condit and Moses Taylor must have been well acquainted. By the time Mr. Taylor was speculating in railroad stock and acquiring anthracite coal and small railroads, Mr. Condit was amassing a fortune also, and must have been very interested in coal and iron transportation. He became President of the Dundee Water Power Co. of Passaic; purchased the Colonel Jackson Rolling Mill at Rockaway; and in 1864 owned an iron company at Musconetcong, and must have become a very important customer of the railroad.

Millburn almost had two other railroads running through it. One, the New Brunswick, Millburn, and Orange Road was stillborn in 1861, having been chartered by the New Jersey Legislature in that year (P.L. 1861 p. 302), but was never given life by its promoters. Among the persons who received the right to incorporate were Amzi Condit and Charles A. Lighthipe, both Millburn names. The charter gave them the right to lay out a railroad from some point in New Brunswick, passing not more than one mile west of Rahway, across the Jersey Central tracks at Westfield, to Millburn, the road not to exceed 100 feet in width except where slope protection required wider. One million dollars in capital stock was authorized, and the Act provided that if construction was not commenced by January 1, 1865, the Act would be void. A railroad running from New Brunswick to Millburn does not seem to make much sense as a practical matter at this time, but the railroad frenzy was mounting and every one wanted to get into the act it seemed.

Another railroad made greater headway on its journey through Millburn. The New Jersey West Line Railroad acquired property, sold stock, and built trestles and embankments, some traces of which may still be found today. This

railroad entered town south of Millburn Avenue, came through what is now South Mountain Estates; then turned north across the Lackawanna tracks and entered the reservation where it again turned in a long southwesterly curve. It crossed Woodcrest Avenue, Old Short Hills Road near Glen Avenue, skirted Nottingham Road, Barberry Lane, and Knollwood Road; then ran westerly to Hobart Avenue and across the County line at Morris Turnpike to Summit. A picture of the old trestle may be found in the Centennial History of Millburn. The railroad was sold to the Passaic and Delaware Railroad in 1878, and eventually was absorbed by the D.L. & W., and the line between Summit and Newark was abandoned. Part of the Gladstone branch of the Lackawanna is now the only remnant of the New Jersey West Line still in use. The right of way through Millburn was sold to the public in 1901.

Seth Boyden's locomotives and others like them, look like toys to us today ? puny, diminutive, almost comical in appearance, but they ushered in the great age of steam which would soon open up a continent and make America secure and powerful.

Millville was now a station on the railroad and its people were linked to the length and breadth of America. No wonder that its citizens began to feel that it was not enough to be only a part of another community. The movement to become a separate corporate entity gained momentum and before the Silver Anniversary of the incorporation of its railroad came around, the Millville section of Springfield passed out of existence, and the new Township of Millburn on March 30, 1857, became a municipality of the State of New Jersey.

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## CHAPTER XIII. 1857-1870

The Millburn section of Springfield became a separate municipality of the State of New Jersey in the County of Essex on March 20, 1857. Almost simultaneously, the County of Union was formed, and the township of Springfield became a part of that County, so that Millburn was not only loosened from its mother's apron strings, but was also separated from it by County lines. Hence forward the inhabitants of Millburn would look to Newark for their political, judicial, and financial leadership.

Geographically, probably, most of Millburn should have been included in Union County. The north line of the land referred to in the Legislative Act closely followed the boundary of the land relinquished by Newark to Elizabeth in 1668, but in 1857, when the line reached Millburn, it was abruptly changed to include Millburn in Essex County. The story goes that several of the Millburn people responsible for the formation of the new Township, either held political office in Essex County, or had aspirations to do so, and it is evident that a shift of the township into the new County of Union would cause a sudden change in the political fates of some ambitious citizens. However, today Millburn people seem to be happy with the decision to be a part of Essex County, and it appears to have been the natural and logical decision, now that the hot old arguments pro and con are forgotten.

The man most responsible for the incorporation of Millburn and its inclusion in Essex County is Israel D. Condit. As we have shown in our previous history, Mr. Condit was a dominant figure of the Township throughout most of the 19th century. He played an important part, too, in Republican politics and served as Essex County Freeholder, and served one term in the New Jersey Legislature. In fact, Millburn names occur frequently among the Essex Freeholders. Up until 1857, the names Parcel, Squier, Denman, Baldwin, Nathaniel Littel, Parkhurst, Ball, Hand, Briant, Israel D. and Amzi Condit appear at one time or another as office-holders.

However, the important thing for Millburn was that on March 20, 1857, the 81st Legislature of New Jersey by a vote of 41 to 0, declared that

"all that part of the Township of Springfield, in the County of Essex, lying north of the north line of the County of Union, shall be, and the same is hereby made a new township, to be called and known by the name of the township of Millburn."

Section 2. of the Act gave permission to the people of this new township to call themselves "the inhabitants of the Township of Millburn, in the County of



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Essex". Section 3, decreed that the said inhabitants should hold their first annual meeting at the house of David Jones; and Section 4, said that after such meeting the Committees of Springfield and Millburn should hold another meeting at James Cooper's house in Springfield, and proceed to allot and divide between them all property and money on hand, or due in proportion to the taxable property and ratables as taxes, and to ascertain which paupers belong to Springfield and which to Millburn. This Act may be found in Chapter CXXXVI, p. 379 of the Laws of 1857.

When Millburn became a Township, William A. Newell was Governor of New Jersey, and James Buchanan was President of the United States. It was not a propitious time to start a new venture of one's own. The year 1857 was disturbed by several financial crises, and panic was in the air. The slave problem was growing more vexing every day. Two days after Mr. Buchanan's inauguration on March 4th, Justice Taney had handed down the Dred Scott decision, and John Brown and his agitators were creating a stir in the middle west. The Civil War was still unthinkable by a majority of the people, but the uneasiness which finally came to a head in four years was apparent everywhere.

A glance through the papers of the Newark Daily Advertiser around this time indicates, however, that an event so important for the inhabitants of Newark created little stir outside. The "Advertiser" does mention it in a report of Legislative news from Trenton, and a line or two is given to it on its editorial page, but it was much more concerned with other matters.

The really burning question was the action of the Legislature permitting sale of \$47,000 in railroad bonds of the State School Fund to relieve the Treasury. An editorial pointed out that a "State like ours almost unencumbered by debt" possessed of an income to meet almost all of its responsibilities, should not tamper with the school fund. Eventually, the Governor vetoed the Act.

Other interesting bits culled from the newspaper around the time of Millburn's incorporation create the atmosphere of the day.

The "Orange Journal" advocated the establishment of another County, to be known as "Newark County".

Leeches were advertised for sale, guaranteed to help a number of ailments.

Colonel Thomas H. Benton talked in Newark on the "Preservation of the Union", saying that the "situation in South Carolina is now a great cloud covering the southwest States". Temperance meetings were held frequently and everywhere. A tribute was paid to the beauty of the Jersey Meadows, which could be viewed from the windows of the New Jersey Railroad (now the

"Pennsylvania"). The vegetation which grew on it was evidently used for fodder, as the article extolled the picturesqueness of the conical hayricks, each with a cap of snow, resembling the hayricks of the lowlands of Europe.

A meeting in Orange urged the extension of the Morris and Essex to the Hudson, and in the opinion of the meeting such an action would be of benefit to the Company, but would also greatly promote the entire section of the State traversed by the line of the road. Charles Lighthipe and Joseph Condit were participants in this meeting. The Legislature soon afterward authorized the extension of the railroad to the Hudson.

A serious accident occurred on March 9, 1857, when the "Governor Southard" an engine of the New Jersey Railroad ran off the bridge over the Hackensack River and into the water. The explanation was that the engineer did not notice that the draw had been opened and proceeded across, plunging the locomotive and tender into 27 feet of water and down into the mud of the riverbed. One car was also under water. The engineer jumped just in time, and luckily, no one was killed. The fireman was carried under water, but managed to escape. Evidently, there were no passengers in the first car. On the first attempt to raise the train the chain broke, and the engine again sank out of sight, but was later successfully raised.

A public meeting was held in Princeton to consider common school education, which many felt would be very disastrous to the youth of the country; a move was made to establish a floating hospital ship off Sandy Hook for New Jersey's contagious diseases patients, and in Keyport several river pirates were arrested.

But river pirates, quarantine ships, slavery, or temperance questions notwithstanding, the inhabitants of Millburn went about the solemn duties imposed on them by the Legislature and on April 13, 1857, met at the home of David Jones, (later the Eagle Hotel, northwest corner of Main Street and Millburn Avenue) and there elected as their Township Committeemen Abner D. Reeves, Thomas A. Reeves, William Taylor, Ezra G. Gardner and Robert McChesney. Appropriations were made as follows: for Township purposes, \$1,000.00; Schools, \$400.00; Roads, \$300.00; grading at the new bridge, \$600.00. Amzi Condit was judge of Elections, and Stephen A. Mitchell was Clerk of the meeting. Also elected that day were the following officers: Judge of Elections, Elijah W. Smith; Town Clerk, Oren J. Nutting; Tax Collector, Horace Park; Superintendent of Schools, Rev. Horace H. Reid; Over-seers of the Poor, Peter McChesney and John S. Reeve; Constables, Edwin A. Barber, Harvey E. Smith; Justices of the Peace, David Brison, Ezra S. Gardner; Chosen Freeholders, Amzi Condit, Harvey W. Morehouse; Surveyors of Highways, John Drew, Jacob Morehouse; Commissioners of Appeals, David M. Denman, John B. Smith, Joseph Pierson; Pound Master, John W. Osborn.

The next week the duly elected officers met with their Springfield counterparts and proceeded to divide up the paupers and money. Millburn received \$445.41 from the joint school fund, and \$223.37 from the Overseer of the Poor's funds, and had to pay \$74.59 as its share of indebtedness. In addition, Millburn assumed the care of nine adult paupers and two children.

Messrs. Dean, Coles, Frenot, and Mulford signed for Springfield.

The next annual meeting assembled on April 13, 1858, at the home of David Jones, but for some reason or other, unfathomable now, the record leads "the day being stormy, the meeting adjourned to the Vaux Hall". Perhaps the meeting was to have been held out-of-doors. The important business at this meeting was the passing of resolutions to publish future proceedings in pamphlet form; to record the names of all voters "to prevent persons from voting more than once"; to set aside \$2.00 per scholar in public schools; to contribute \$25.00 to the South Orange Turnpike, and \$50.00 for building a railing at the new bridge. The amount allotted for each child in school was raised in 1861 to \$2.50, and in 1864 to \$3.00 each.

The Township fathers were kept busy with many problems enjoined on them by reason of their new status as a Township. James Lyons and Samuel M. Bailey got into a serious argument as to their partition fence on Old Short Hills Road, and two of the Township Committee were appointed to view the fence and determine which part of share should be maintained by each owner. The decision was that Lyon should maintain 52 feet of fence to the rear of his barn, Bailey to mend 240 feet starting with the said barn, and then Lyons should commence where Bailey left off, and continue the rest. Also, in November, 1958, "a deep red cow of middling size with crumpled horns, tail rather short, about 7 years old", was found in the enclosure of Charles Wood and action had to be taken.

Actually, these matters are not as humorous as they seem, as the Township was, and in fact still is, required by law to take note of such difficulties. The "Estray" law (General Statutes IV, 134, p. 56, Section 1), required that anyone finding a stray animal should bring it to the Township Clerk who had to note in writing, age, color, marks, etc. Finder paid twenty-five cents for such notice. Then if no owner appeared by the next May the Overseer of the Poor was required to sell the animal, pay finder for his expenses of keep, and the notice fee, deduct 10% for himself, and pay the owner, if he appeared, the balance. If not owner appeared, balance of the money went to the Overseer of the Poor. This law with some variations was carried on the Statute books until 1953 when it was amended and drastically changed. The problems of the common fence are still with us. The Laws of 1953 (New Jersey Statutes Annotated, 4:20-8) amending the older laws, still entitles the owner of a common fence to apply to have two disinterested members of the Township Committee appraise and certify in writing as to his costs in maintaining the fence, after which he may

sue the delinquent owner in a civil action. The Township Clerk has to enter such fence certifications in a book provided for that purpose.

one wonders what Millburn looked like in those days. No one now alive can tell us, but two maps, one, not generally known, made in 1850, when Millburn was the "Millville section of Springfield", the other in 1859, help us to form some picture. Both show a very small town of not more than twelve or fourteen streets, most of them unnamed on the map. Hat shops and paper mills dominate. A major part of the population was concentrated around the four corners of Millburn, but some houses were strung out along Old Short Hills Road, White Oak Ridge Road, Parsonage Hill Road, Short Hills Avenue, Great Hills Road, what is now Brookside Drive (called "The Hollow Road" on the 1850 map), and one or two other streets. Great tracts of land were uninhabited.

Schools appear on Millburn Avenue, Old Short Hills Road at Parsonage Hill Road, on White Oak Ridge Road, and a private school, Hobart Hall, at the corner of the present Hobart Avenue and old Short Hills Road. The ancient remains of the latter on the George Campbell property could still be seen a few years ago. As of now, all the buildings on that property have been razed and a new housing development occupies the site. The history of Millburn's schools has been prepared in detail for this series by Dr. Charles T. King, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools, and will be included herein. Schools in existence in 1857 are here briefly noted.

A separate installment will also deal with the history of Millburn's churches. However, in 1857, the White Oak Ridge Chapel was 26 years old; St. Stephen's was four years old, and while no Catholic Church had been built, the home of John Hogan at 58 Old Short Hills Road had been used since 1847 for the occasional saying of Masses by visiting priests, and St. Rose of Lima's had been organized in Springfield in 1852. The Millburn Baptist Church was organized in 1858.

Millburn, then called Millville, had its own Post Office since February 14, 1854, with Albert Traphagen as Post Master. Mr. Traphagen was evidently an unyielding Whig for it is said that he refused to permit a Democratic handbill to be posted in his office. He was succeeded in February, 1857, by Jonathan Meeker, formerly station agent for the railroad.

A name for the new Township absorbed a great deal of people's time and thoughts. "Millville" favored by some because of long general usage, could not be used because the Post Office Department would not accept it, another Millville being in existence in Cumberland County.

"Millburn", Samuel Campbell's old name for his adopted home, had many

adherents, among them Wooldridge Eaglesfield, now living out his last days here. Elizabeth Campbell, Samuel's daughter, was another powerful voice in urging the name her father used, and so, finally, "Millburn" was the choice and became the legal name.

The first national election after incorporation was the momentous one of 1860 with the candidates Lincoln, Douglas, and Breckenridge, in the field. A strong effort had been made to determine how Millburn voted in that election, but no Township, County or State records are now available to show that figure. In the State of New Jersey, however, the Democratic fusion ticket won by a majority of 4,523; the vote being Douglas, 62,639, Lincoln, 58,346, Breckenridge, 56,237. Abraham Lincoln failed to carry New Jersey in 1864, also, McClellan's majority being 7,301 votes.

During the Civil War a Volunteer Fund was voted and \$200.00 was paid to each of 17 volunteers up to August 20, 1864. The amount was later raised to \$300.00 a man, which was paid to 11 volunteers up to January 1, 1865. This amount was subscribed by members of the newly formed Union League and was all repaid to the Township by 1870. It is quite possible that more than those 28 served with the Union Army, but no accurate records are now available to change that figure. An article appearing in the "Millburn Budget" of October 6, 1886, described a reunion at Easton, Pennsylvania, of members of the 13th Regiment of Essex County, to celebrate the Anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, and so many men went from Millburn that it would appear that most of our veterans were members of that Regiment. The 13th took part in engagements at Antietam, Chancellorsville, the March on Fredericksburg, Chattanooga, the Atlanta Campaign and in the March to the Sea, and some lesser fights, and it is said to have captured more men than were contained in its ranks. One conspicuous Millburn hero of the war was Israel D. Condit's son-in-law, Dr. Edward Thomas Whittingham, who served as a surgeon in the regular army under General Kearny, for three years.

In fact, Dr. Whittingham was a distinguished citizen of Millburn for more than 30 years. he was the son of the Rt. Rev. Bishop William Rollinson Whittingham, of Maryland, whose career would entitle him to his own biography. For years the Bishop had been an ardent Unionist in Maryland where it was not popular to be one, and continued to uphold the Union throughout the Civil War, even though Maryland had joined the Confederate Congress, and although it did not pass a secession law. The Whittinghams, closely related to the Rollinson family, pioneer settlers of Orange, had also lived in Orange. Dr. Edward Whittingham returned from Maryland to practice medicine in Millburn a year or two before the incorporation, and was Millburn's beloved family doctor, counsellor, and friend until his death in 1886. His son, Walton, married Elizabeth Renwick, daughter of another of Millburn's distinguished citizens, Edward Renwick.

When a G.A.R. Post was started here in 1885 it was named for Captain Edward H. Wade who died October 5, 1862, from wounds received at Antietam.

Following the Civil War, we must presume, from the absence of records to the contrary, that the young municipality pursued the even tenor of its ways for the next few years, its population slightly more than 1500, living out their daily lives in its little mills and small farms. The only excitement was an occasional trip on the train to Newark, or New York, or a ride by horse and carriage to visit relatives in some nearby community. One had only to walk a very short distance from one's home in any part of the community, to reach a pond or stream of abundant water, and fishing, boating, and swimming were all free. The few stores supplied all the commercially-prepared goods needed, and the people who had banking business used the banks in orange or Newark.

Church and school picnics in the surrounding wooded areas were popular, and for a while everyone went to Isaac Hand's playground and picnic grounds on the mountain to climb the high, lookout tower Mr. Hand had erected on it, in the 1860's. However, one day a boy named McCrumb fell from it and broke his neck and died. That's all we know about the boy, McCrumb, and with his tragic end the tower was abandoned and removed by Mr. Hand.

Millburn, by 1870, had definitely emerged out of the wilderness as a small manufacturing town, and its destiny seemed fixed and determined. Who in 1870 could have foreseen that two unrelated events in outlying sections would change the whole course of its history, and return it to what it had started out to be in the 18th century? a community of homes? Those two events were the coming of Stewart Hartshorn, and the organization of the Wyoming Land and Development Company.

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## CHAPTER XIV. THE SHORT HILLS AND WYOMING DEVELOPMENTS

Stewart Hartshorn was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on August 28, 1840, the son of New England parents, moved to New York while still in his teens where his father and older brother died forcing him to earn the family living. Mr. Hartshorn seems to have successfully combined in one person a practical inventor, an astute business man and an artist. By the time he was 24 years of age he had patented a window shade roller based on a gravity pawl principle, which is still the basic roller used today. He organized the Stewart Hartshorn Company for its manufacture and eventually had factories in operation in New Jersey, New York, Michigan, and South Carolina.

Most men, with a very successful business, based on a unique patent, would have been content to sit back thereafter and reap the benefits of their genius, but the artist in Mr. Hartshorn, coupled with a mind which constantly sought new fields in which to experiment, would not have been satisfied with a comfortable chair behind a desk. He had studied lithography in his youth, so that the artist's fundamental principles of composition and line were familiar to him. He wrote poetry, took delight in fine literature, and had a passionate love of nature.

Moreover, he had often dreamed of some ideal town where many of these aspects of life could be combined and enjoyed; where natural beauty would not be destroyed by real estate developments, and where people of congenial tastes could dwell together. Mr. Hartshorn once in his later life said, in describing his attitude toward his chosen village, that his sole purpose was to create a harmonious community for people who appreciated nature, for he had found then to be people of taste and initiative.

His first attempt at living outside of New York City brought him to Hoboken, but he soon perceived that Hoboken, even with its magnificent view of the harbor and river, would not suit his purposes, and moreover a threat of tuberculosis caused him to seek country property.

His quest led him to Springfield here he purchased from Cyrus Parkhurst, a 70-year old mansion fronting on Morris Avenue, and about 52 acres of land which enclosed a beautiful little stream, a strong vein of traprock for a quarry, and woods and fields. In 1936 Mr. Hartshorn gave this strip of brook with 19 acres of land to the Union County Park Commission.

Mr. Hartshorn's first idea was to build his contemplated village on the slope of Baltusrol Mountain, but the idea was abandoned when he was unable to purchase there at fair prices. Moreover, on his trips to New York he realized



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that the land was too far from the railroad for daily commutation, and when an acquaintance, William Seaver, from nearby Millburn Township, offered to sell him some land, Mr. Hartshorn made his first purchase of 13 acres. He later increased his homesite acreage to 56.

In 1874 with his wife, the former Joanna Randall, and their infant daughter, Cora, born the previous March 21st, he moved from Springfield to his new home between Hobart avenue and the present Crescent. There his two other children, Stewart Henry, and Joanna, (Mrs. Harold Hack) were born.

Hobart avenue, Parsonage Hill road, and Chatham road were the only public roads running through the area which was to be developed as "Short Hills Village." Mr. Hartshorn was delighted with his new surroundings and on his daily walks through the rolling countryside knew that he had found just what he had been seeking. The Farleys, Renwicks, Seavers, Traphagens, and Smith owned most of the land. One hundred years before that the Smith family had owned practically all of it. An obituary of Lewis C. Smith, in the Short Hills Item of January 24, 1891, stated that Smith's grandfather, William Smith, "once owned and occupied what is now almost the entire Short Hills Village."

The Smith house stood near where the first Hartshorn home was erected, and the Smith spring later furnished water to Short Hills. This is the same Smith family referred to previously in the chapter on the mills of Millburn, Bill Smith's Paper Mill having stood approximately where the High School Stadium is now located.

Mr. Hartshorn named his development "Short Hills," because he felt that the name represented the topography of the district, and because he felt that the name had tradition behind it, the designation, the "short" or "little" hills having been used by the Indians in their native tongue, and by the early settlers to describe the locality. A suggestion to call it "Hartshornville" was emphatically turned down by him.

That the name "Short Hills" did not suit everyone, however, is evident in reading an article by the editor of the News Item of November, 1888, in which he asks, "What's in a Name?", and says,

"Our own sense of the appropriate has, on more than a single instance been offended by criticisms anent the term 'Short Hills' as applied to a Village. This will probably be a surprise to those who associate that name with the noble traditions which indissolubly connect it with the glorious days of '76, and which yet make it significant of the great natural outpost, which, at that time, turned back the tide of war from the northern part of our State ... Someone, as if the pure Saxon was less expressive, less elegant, has proposed the name 'Monte Breve,' ... other names have had their advocates, but all have been open to



objections, so that thus far, nothing has been proposed that has approached in fitness the present name of our village."

We are indebted to Miss Cora Hartshorn for much of our information about the early days of the Short Hills section of Millburn Township.

Miss Hartshorn writes, in her "Little History of the Short Hills Section," that there were two lovely brooks and a spring on the homestead property, and at first water was carried to their house twice a day, but was later pumped up to the house by a windmill erected by her father near the Short Hills Station. Their house contained the newest luxury of American life, a bathroom, with zinc tub set in black walnut. Candles and kerosene lamps lighted all their rooms. In the nearby woods were trees of every variety; wild-flowers and wild berries of all sorts abounded, and small wild animals roamed freely. In her "Arboretum, Wild-flower and bird sanctuary," Miss Cora has preserved for the Township a 16.45-acre tract of this virgin country.

However, the woods were not as extensive as might be supposed, now, although many fine stands of trees existed. Tree-cutting for firewood and for farming purposes had removed much of the original forests. A photograph of Hobart and Highland avenues, taken in 1878, and published in the Centennial History Book shows that section actually to have fewer trees than it does today.

However, a few trees have survived for centuries, including the fine white oak on Great Oak Drive, also pictured in the Centennial Book. The chestnut tree blight of 50 years ago also decimated large parts of woodland.

Mr Hartshorn began acquiring land and ultimately purchased, including his homestead land of 56 acres, 1552 acres. Some of his acreage included the old glebe lands of Parsonage Hill, given to Parson Symmes in 1746, the right of glebe having been extinguished in 1867 by a special Act of the Legislature, and the property purchased by William Seaver.

After his own home, the first house erected by him was at the corner of Hobart and Highland avenue, and it is still standing.

Good water supply, sewage, and drainage being essentials to a proper community, Mr. Hartshorn soon became expert in selecting homesites with these things in mind. He laid out roads around the low hills with his artist's awareness of rhythmic beauty, and he paved them with crushed traprock from his quarry. Highland avenue is the only road with a steep grade, but it was laid out over an old, existing country lane running to the Seaver home at the top of the hill. He built his houses always with the considerations of suitability to location, good taste, and liveableness. His first houses, strange as it seems

now, were occupied by renters, although many who came to rent remained as owners. Some of the houses rented for about \$750.00 a year, and cost \$3,500.00.

He selected his tenants or purchasers carefully with the idea of bringing people here who appreciated the beauty of the terrain and who seemed to have congenial tastes. People liked the idea of having a knoll to themselves, and many of his first houses were built on separate knolls.

He was insistent that no two houses be exactly alike, and usually different architects were employed to insure originality. Those houses remaining today attest to the diversity of styles chosen by Mr. Hartshorn or the owners. Most of the houses had names, such as "Sunset Cottage," "The Lodge," "Sunnyside," "Redstone," "Greystone Cottage," "Seven Gables," "The Hammock," and "The Anchorage."

The first houses had cesspools, but in 1888 when 52 houses were completed, the new sewage system was also completed. After a personal study of both the systems devised by George Waring in Memphis in 1878, and the Imhoff System in Berlin, Germany, in 1887, the Waring System was adopted here by Mr. Hartshorn. Very few towns in the whole United States had sewage systems at that time, and the Short Hills sewer was the envy of Millburn Village, too.

Someone signing himself "Taxpayer," wrote to the News Item in April, 1888, indignantly protesting the suggestion to build a new Town Hall. His letter concluded,

"As a matter of fact, Millburn village will need a Sewer before it will need a Town Hall. A Sewer would be a benefit to real estate, as it would result in improving the sanitary conditions of the village. But a Town Hall with a town debt of \$10,000, will have an opposite effect."

It wasn't until 1902, however, that Millburn connected its system with Mr. Hartshorn's system.

Within five years after he located here, Mr. Hartshorn had persuaded the railroad to stop two trains a day at Short Hills, and provided the railroad with a station, at a cost to him of \$2,520.00. He maintained it himself for a number of years and even paid the Station Master, Louis C. Goodrich, who also became the Post Master when a Post Office was opened in the depot in 1880. The original Short Hills Station was torn down in 1907 and the present station was erected.

In 1879 when 17 houses were finished, 12 more under construction, Mr. Hartshorn built a "Music Hall," for a social center for his new community. This

building, of course, is now known to us as "The Racquets Club." It was designed by the young New York architect, Stanford White, based on an ancient building in Brittany. As the Music Hall, later the "Casino," the building was the setting for many social events, parties, musicals, dramatics, and even private schools and church congregations were organized and met there.

Very few of the original dwellers in Short Hills have left descendants here, as many of the first comers came to Short Hills for the summers only or moved away years ago. However, the names of their estates have supplied street names for the section. "Montview" was the J.A. Pitcher property; Gilbert Brown owned "Twin Oaks," and "Woodfield" was the name of the estate of John Taylor. The Short Hills News Item of July, 1889, published the names of the early permanent inhabitants of the Short Hills development as: "1879 DeRonge, Haswell, Russell, Horton, Root, Pitcher; 1880, Colt and Henry, 1881, Bliss and Dean."

The Short Hills houses were large and many-roomed. Photographs show them to have been furnished in cluttered elegance of the period, with massive furniture, many bibelots and furbelows, the walls covered with paintings, engravings, and family photographs. Today, the thought of the mark involved in the care of such homes is awesome, but large staffs of servants were available, both indoors and out, and it was not unusual for one home to have twenty or more in help. In fact, one lifelong resident of Millburn has told the writer that at least one estate employed forty people. This figure, of course, would include garden and stable help.

The spacious stables and carriage houses contained fine horses, and various types of vehicles which were driven singly, tandem, or four-in-hand.

An on-the-spot description of the spacious homes of that day is contained in a book which a French author, Paul Blouet, wrote after his return to France from a trip to the United States, including a stay in Short Hills. His book, "Jonathan and his Continent, or Rambles Through American Society," was published in 1895. Mr. Blouet, who used the pen name "Michael O'Rell," was a guest of the Bliss family on Knollwood Road. He was feted and entertained and made much of, and his departure was noted with regret in the local paper. While he does not mention Short Hills by name, in his book, his description is intended to cover, generally, fine homes in the vicinity of New York City.

"American houses are furnished very luxuriously and for the most part in excellent taste. Here you see the influence of woman in the smallest details. Decorations are dark, substantial, and artistic. Liberal use of portieres adds greatly to the richness of the effect. On all sides there is pleasure for the eye whether it rests on furnishings, walls, or ceilings. The floors are covered with rich carpets and ceilings are invariably decorated. Reception rooms are on the ground floor. A suite (or such rooms) is based on 3 or 4 rooms divided by

portieres. One contains dark furniture and hangings, oil paintings, excellent art treasures, majestic tropical plants ... another in oriental style; another has books and antiquities of all kinds. Another is in the style of the boudoir, all bestrewn with knickknacks, bric-a-brac, water colors, excellent statues, etc., in artistic disorder; parquet floors, well waxed; flowers in every room. When the suite is lighted up, portieres back, the American woman, elegant, witty, adds sparkling life."

Another celebrity who made Short Hills his home for many summers was the redoubtable mayor of New York City, A. Oakey Hall, known as "The Elegant Oakey." His biography, "The Elegant Oakey" by Croswell Bowen, was published last year, and may be obtained at the Millburn Public Library. His home called "Valley View" was off Parsonage Hill road, near Hartshorn drive. A road in that vicinity is now known as "Oakey Road."

Spring must have seen a tremendous amount of activity in and out of Short Hills as people from New York City moved in for the summer, and winter residents moved out to Nantucket, Fisher's Island, Camden, Maine, Cape Cod, Biddleford Pool, and the south shore of Long Island. Some families went to Europe.

Several photographs of one of the Short Hills homes, "Red Stone" owned by William Ingersoll Russell, appear in the Centennial History of Millburn. Mr. Russell, himself, has given us a description of some of the social life lived in Short Hills. In his book, "The Romance and Tragedy of a Widely Known Business man of New York," (published 1905), also in the Millburn Public Library, he writes of his home life here in the days of his prosperity:

"The frequent pleasant little dinner parties of four to six couples had gone through a course of evolution and became functions where two or three times the number sat at the board and struggled through so many courses that one became wearied of sitting still.

"The New Year's reception every New Year's day for many years a reception was held at the Casino. The residents, loaning from their homes rugs, draperies, paintings, statuary, and fine furniture, transformed that large auditorium into an immense drawing room. The green-houses contributed palms and blooming plants in profusion. In the enormous fireplace burned great logs. At one end of the room a long table from which was served, as wanted, all that could be desired by the inner man. The stage, set as a garden scene and rattan furniture, where the men lounged as they had their smoke. Music by a fine orchestra, interspersed with occasional songs by our local talent. The reception was from six until nine, then the rugs were gathered up, the furniture moved from the center of the floor and dancing was enjoyed until midnight."

One of the great social affairs of the 1890's was the party which Mr. Russell gave in his carriage-house. He describes it, also, in his book:

"The invitations engraved in usual notesheet form, had on the upper half of the page a fine engraving of the front of the stable, and beneath in old English 'Come and dance in the barn.' We received our guests in the hall and drawing-room, fragrant with blooming plants. From the rear piazza a carpeted and canvas covered platform extended across the lawn to the carriage-house. The floor there had been covered with canvas for the dancers. Brilliantly illuminated in addition to the permanent decorations, a life-size jockey in bronze bas-relief and numerous coaching pictures, was the mark of the florist. the large orchestra was upstairs surrounding the open carriage trap, which was concealed from below by masses of smilax. The harness room was made attractive with rugs and easy chairs for the cardplayers.

"In the stable each of the six stalls had been converted into a cozy nook where soft light from shaded lamps fell on rugs and draperies ... On each stall post was a massive floral horseshoe. The order of dancing, besides the usual gold-embossed monogram, bore an engraving of a tandem cart with high-stepping horses and driver snapping his long whip. Attached to each was a sterling silver pencil, representing the foreleg of a horse in action, the shoe being of gold. Supper was served in the dining-room from a table decorated in keeping with the event, the centerpiece being a model in sugar of the tandem design on the order of dancing."

A few of the mementoes of this famous "barn dance" including the invitation and dance card, were displayed in the Exhibition Cabinet of the Millburn Bank during the Centennial celebration.

After Red Stone passed out of Mr. Russell's hands, it became "The Red Stone Inn", in 1934 it was burned to the ground in a memorable fire, which is still recalled by many older Millburn citizens.

Much of the beauty of Short Hills today is a tribute to Mr. Hartshorn's foresight. He left undeveloped, strips of land along the railroad right of way, between Hobart avenue and the railroad, and between the railroad and Chatham road, so that people coming into town would not be disturbed by the usual ugliness greeting travellers into a community. "Years later," his daughter, Miss Cora, writes, "When asked why he put those strips there, he said that he had passed by long rows of privies backing on the railroad on his trips to New York and he wanted to make certain that he would not have a raw of them in his village." The little plaza park by the Short Hills Station, laid out by Mr. Hartshorn, was given to the Township by the Hartshorn Estate in 1944 with the stipulation that it be kept open as Mr. Hartshorn had wished.

Mr. Hartshorn is still remembered by many living here today. His great height, his erect walk, his flowing white locks, made him a picturesque sight in his later years around the town, whether walking or driving his horse and carriage. He died on January 12, 1937 in his 97th year, vigorous and active to the end of his days. He had lived to see many of his ideals spread throughout the Township, and all of Millburn change from a manufacturing center to a suburb of homes. He has left behind him many monuments to his generosity and foresightedness, and they will be described later in chronological order in our history. The history of one of the greatest of them, Christ Church, will appear in the history of Millburn Churches to be published later in this series.

### *THE WYOMING SECTION*

The Wyoming section, unlike Short Hills, owes its origin, not to one man, but to a company, the Wyoming Land and Development Co., which foreseeing the advantages of building a town at the junction of two railroads, bought initially, about one hundred acres from the Reeve and Hand families, pioneer settlers. The two railroads were the Morris and Essex, and the shortlived New Jersey West Line Railroad. The latter road, as has been mentioned before, bought considerable right of way through Millburn, built trestles, roadbeds and embankments, but went into bankruptcy before the line could be put into operation.

The New Jersey West Line Railroad came across the Lackawanna tracks and Glen avenue from what would now be the South Mountain road, and then ran into the present Reservations and eventually crossed the Morris Turnpike to Summit. The Wyoming settlement was planned for the heights northeast of the crossing of the two railroads.

In April, 1872, the work of surveying was commenced and in June the first lot was sold. James A. Williamson; Luther Badger, and a Mr. Fickett were officers of the Land Company, and O.H. Pierson was the New York Agent, Mr. Pierson's paper, "The Wyoming Herald" was almost entirely devoted to the sale of land of the Company. In an issue of May 23, 1874, he announced that 23 houses had been built, all occupied, but two, some rented, others sold, and that \$10,000, had been spent in making streets, avenues, and a railroad depot, and that five trains each way stopped there daily. It was not long after this announcement that the land company went into bankruptcy and much of its land reverted to its original owners.

In his "Pen and Pencil Sketches along the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western," J. K. Hoyt writing in 1874, provides a picture of Wyoming's appearance before its present growth. The population is given as 50. Mr. Hoyt says,

"The railroad makes a sweeping curve around the terminal base of first mountain and here the land rolls off toward Springfield and Newark. It is a spot of singular beauty and remarkable advantages for improving, and why it has not been improved sooner it would be hard to tell.

"Wyoming is as nice an incipient city as could be found in New Jersey famous for its wholesale business in new towns. It possesses both plain and the mountain ... and from almost every point .. we can look over the plain and see where other cities are located even as far as Elizabeth and Rahway. If we desire still broader fields of vision we can climb the mountain to Mr. Hand's tower which stands like a sentinel over the town below, and there we have before us a prospect which once seen will never be forgotten. It puts us in mind of the view from Stirling Castle in Scotland.

"The streets of Wyoming are from 60 to 75 feet wide, laid out at right angles, and as the drainage is perfect and the place is well sheltered, there can be no doubt of its salubrity. What it needs are trees which it will have soon, a church and a school, vines and gardens, and then Wyoming will be one of the most picturesque towns to be found anywhere. For the present, church services are held in the station, and the school there through the week..."

A map of 1880 shows streets laid out to be Wyoming avenue, Cypress, Myrtle Cedar, Grand (now Linden), Chestnut, Laurel, and Prospect (now Sagamore road), and only ten buildings are indicated, although Mr. Pierson in his "Wyoming Herald" had stated that 23 houses had been built in 1874. By the 1890 map, Pine street had been added, and the names Emerson, Williamson, Mc Cullum, Denman, Field, Woolsey, Mattison, Cox, Bodwell, Lord, Deering, Badger, Keeney, Gardner, Reeves, Howell, Mor, Hand, Vaughn, Smith, Ludlum, Melvane, Warman, and Davis are shown as house-owners. The names Pirrson and Marshall may be added to this list, as those names appear in the "Millburn Budget" of 1886.

The "Wyoming Herald" was not a newspaper in the true sense of the word, although it used a newspaper format. It was entirely devoted to Mr. O. H. Pierson's land operations in Wyoming and Chatham. Wyoming had another short-lived publication near the close of the century, which was called the "Wyoming Weakly" and sold for one cent. The spelling of the name is not a typographical error, as its editor states.

"In reply to numerous inquiries this paper is not a weekly, nor is it a too-weakly, it is about a four-weekly."

The "Weakly" was 6 x 9 inches in size, and contained only a few paragraphs of reading material. Its news, mostly limited to citizens' comings and goings, is of interest particularly in giving us the names of some of the residents of the

section at that time. Wilever, Kellogg, Williamson, Howard and Schuyler Cady, Ethel Madison (probably Mattison), are listed in the social column. A Book Club was in existence for the paper reports the purchase of "The Christian" by Hall Caine, "The City of Refuge" by Besant, and "The Green Brook" by Jokal, for use by the Book Club.

Wyoming grew slowly. The collapse of the Wyoming Land Co. boom and the consequent trouble; which followed, put an end to the speculation and developments there, although there was after 1874 some steady movement of people into the section. An adequate water supply seems to have been a problem for we read in the "Millburn Budget" of October 27, 1886, that water was being sold in Wyoming for forty-cents a barrel. A few years later a solution was reached, and in the News Item of 1891, the statement appears.

"Wyoming is experiencing a mild boom. A water main has been laid through Wyoming Avenue ... Nearly all of the house owners have engaged to take the water. There is no speculation but the village is making a strong, healthy growth."

Because of the comparatively small size of the lots laid out for the section, Wyoming never attracted the wealthy New Yorkers who went to Short Hills, but the people who did build there, while not extremely wealthy, can best be described by a word much in favor in that bygone Victorian age, "genteel". They were gentle, wellbred people, solid citizens, who enjoyed a compact, close-knit social life centering around their literary societies, musicales, and amateur dramatic entertainments. In fact, they were probably as much the epitome of the Victorian era as any group to be found anywhere.

An Athletic Association was started in 1886, a Baseball Club was organized at about the same time, and a sport referred to as "glass ball shooting" was enjoyed. Advertisements of property for sale a Wyoming speak particularly of the healthgiving properties of the air, and emphasis is laid on its advantages in all cases of throat trouble.

One might be entitled to presume that an influx of ill people would have invaded the locality as a result of such advertising, but the vital statistics continue to remain constant, so we must conclude that the people to whom the advertising was addressed either recovered their health immediately on entering Wyoming, or were not sufficiently impressed by the advertisements to leave their city homes, for the mountain air of northeastern Millburn.

A meeting of the Wyoming Literary and Social Society was reported in the Millburn Budget (1886) as follows:

"The meeting of the Wyoming Literary and Social Society at Mrs. Bodwell's on



Tuesday was one of the most enjoyable yet held. Mrs. Melvain had written to the author Frank Stockton to the effect that he was to be dissected by the learned society and had received from him a letter and sketch of his life which she read. Selections were read by Mrs. Emerson and Mr. Young. Miss Laura Smith gave a piano recital and Mrs. Young played both the violin and piano. Songs were beautifully rendered by Miss Minnie Smith and Mr. Field. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Marshall. The subject is Oliver Wendall Holmes."

The lives of Wyoming people evidently did not lend themselves to spectacular headlines for news is meagre. one of the events of 1886 which made the headlines was a strike carpenters employed by H.D. Gould & Son, Builders. None of the carpenters reported for work the morning after the strike was called, but a few days later the strike was settled in favor of the men's demand for a 9-hour day, Monday to Friday, and an 8-hour day on Saturday with 10 hours pay on Saturdays. Before the strike they had worked ten hours a day six days a week.

Mr. Reeves' house was struck by lightning and the church bell was rung to call out all residents to assist him. Wyoming held its own Fourth of July celebration with fireworks each year. Some Wyoming residents attended St. Stephen's Church in Millburn center, but most belonged to the Wyoming Presbyterian Church organized in 1874 in the Railroad Station, with the Rev. Brown Emerson who had come to New Jersey from New England also acted as ticket agent on week-days. Trains did not run on Sunday. The Congregation moved into its own buildings in 1883, and the present church building was completed in 1932.

When the Rev. Thomas Haywood took over the pastorate in 1886, after a ten-year interim in which there was no resident pastor, he was described as "an earnest worker in the cause of temperance and religion." In fact, his work in the Temperance Movement seems to have been particularly pleasing to his parishioners as it is stressed in referring to him.

There are still on the active rolls of the church, descendants of many of the families instrumental in forming the church. one of the oldest communicants, Mrs. Frederick Stoneall, joined on March 1, 1888. She is the granddaughter of the first minister, Rev. Brown Emerson.

Like the White Oak Ridge Section, the Wyoming Section, although legally a part of Millburn Township, lived most of its 19th century life separately. Part of this isolation was, no doubt, due to transportation. It was a long walk to Millburn center, and although it was common to travel by train from Wyoming to Millburn, many depended on horse and carriage. Shopping for food and other needs seems to have been done in Millburn as advertisements mention that "all necessities of daily living may be purchased a short distance away in

Millburn Village." The fruit and vegetable peddler drove his wagon through the streets supplying fresh produce. Eventually, McCollum's store commenced delivering to homes, and other stores followed the custom afterward.

Many children, when they reached the higher grades, went to school in Maplewood or South Orange, as the schools there were considered superior scholastically to Millburn schools. Some of the young girls attended the Baquet Institute in Short Hills, and some boys also went to the boys' private school in Short Hills. Many of the little ones attended the private kindergarten at Miss Bodwell's house on Chestnut street.

A few school classes were held in the railroad station according to Mr. Hoyt and other writers, but no definite information has been found about them.

The first public school was opened in May 1895, at 119 Cypress street, now the home of 'Cellist Maurice Eisenberg, and about 1910 a new building was completed on the present school site.

By 1894, 38 trains, 19 each way, were stopping at Wyoming daily, with commuters to the cities forming the bulk of the passengers.

The Wyoming section has always received a unique loyalty from its residents. Many older citizens or their descendants have remained there to the present day, as a matter of choice, and feel a particular pride in being residents of the land on the mountain slope. It is akin to the feeling for a section of town evoked by the older "Ridge" people on White Oak Ridge, even though roots in the latter place go down much deeper by reason of the many years of settlement behind them.

One family in the Wyoming section may, perhaps, hold the record for continuous living in the original homestead. Young Phillips Marshall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Marshall, Jr., is the fifth generation to live in the Marshall home on Chestnut street. The house was built by his great-great grandfather, James A. Williamson, and is one of the six square-towered houses built by the Land Company. A picture of it appears in the Centennial History. The house was occupied by Mr. Williamson's son, then by his granddaughter, Mrs. Herbert Marshall, Sr. and now by the Junior Marshall family. It would be interesting to know what other house in Millburn Township has achieved such a record.

Although Wyoming was only loosely joined to Millburn Township until the 20th century, and still receives its mail through Maplewood, and its telephone service through the South Orange exchange, it has always firmly supported Millburn's community enterprises, and many of its citizens have served long terms on the governing boards and commissions of the Township. The first

civic association-the Wyoming Civic Association-was formed there in 1907 and formed a model for other associations founded in other sections in later years. The Wyoming Field Club, now the Wyoming Club, founded in 1922, is, next to the Short Hills Club, the oldest of its type in the Township. Its history will be gone into more fully in a later chapter on Clubs and Organizations of the Township.

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## CHAPTER XV. THE HISTORY OF MILLBURN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

At the turn of the century the county superintendent reported that "Millburn has a high school offering complete courses and preparing for all colleges."

At that time 1899-1900, there were 434 pupils enrolled in the township schools and the total high school enrollment was twenty-nine. There were thirteen teachers and, a year later, there were forty-one high school students and a total of fifteen teachers in town.

The Millburn Item of June 30, 1898, reported the first commencement experiences of the Millburn High School (the first was in 1896?one graduate Sarah F. McChesney, from Annual Report of Millburn Board of Education, 1908 and following years). The affair was held in the Casino and, seated on the platform, were miss Hebbard, school superintendent of Millburn Township; Dr. Addison B. Poland, former state superintendent of schools; and the three graduates; Henrietta Keeney, Martha Gilley Condit, and Agnes Isabella McKallor. Each graduate rendered an essay. Miss McKallor spoke on "Patriotism"; Miss Keeney on "The Ancient Romans"; and Miss Condit on "Fairy Tales."

Board of Education President William H. Deen presented the diplomas to the graduates, and spoke to the audience on some of the difficulties of the Board and of the teachers. Mr. Deen said that "He had personally investigated a number of trivial complaints made by parents in behalf of their children, and he found that with hardly an exception, the fault originated in the pupil who was generally backward in his studies and probably below the average in department." Mr. Deen made a very thoughtful and delicate reference to the past season's services of Miss Cora Hartshorn, who gave the high school class free instructions in drawing, and furnished all of the necessary materials.

Dr. Poland, in his address, said that he had received his first inspiration from Millburn to consolidate the school districts of the State according to townships. The audience was amused when he contrasted the present educational privileges of the township with those offered by the Old Washington School House.

Dr. Poland stated that there were now fifty high school buildings in the state of New Jersey. He emphasized the quality of education rather than the number of graduates. He observed that "Smith College started with nine graduates, Millburn High School with three; like Smith College our classes will increase in numbers."



Print

In 1899, the Item reported the fourth (1896, 1897, 1898, 1899) high school graduation which was held at the Casino on June 29th. The graduates were: Miss Gertrude Keeney, Miss Martha Louise Woolsey, and Mr. George Wright Campbell. The essays presented by the graduates were respectively: "God's Chosen People," "A Few of the World's Great Painters," and "Trusts."

Present day pupils will be amused to hear that one of the songs sung at the graduation was entitled "Swing, Swing."

Mr. Deen again presented the diplomas to the graduates, and twenty-three pupils were promoted from the grammar school to the high school. In the Millburn-Short Hills Item of June 18, 1931, Mr. Charles Dyke, Superintendent of Schools, is reported to have stated that one of the graduates, Doris Berstler, was the niece of Millburn High school's first graduate in 1896. He identified that graduate as miss Sarah F. McChesney (N.B. sister of Doris Berstler's mother), and the year of her graduation as 1896. This precedes the first reported class by two years, and there are records to support Mr. Dyke's statement [marginal note that is not entirely legible, but reads in part: In the Bd of E record in va? And in Bd of Ed Annual Report for 1908 and following year].

During the early 1900's great emphasis was placed on the use of the schools by the community, and the idea of the teacher serving as a leader in the community. From State Superintendent Baxter on down to the local level the philosophy was advanced that:

"...the school should be the intellectual center of the community, and not that alone but a social center as well, making an effort to hold young people and furnish them recreation not only innocent but improving."

In the spring of 1903, the State Superintendent reported that:

"...There is a growing interest in evening-school work. Courses of lectures were given successfully last winter in Bloomfield, Nutley, South Orange, West Orange and Millburn."

In 1906 County Superintendent Meredith reported that some land was being purchased adjacent to the Wyoming School for the purpose of erecting an addition, and that modern plumbing systems had been installed in the Short Hills and Washington Schools at a cost of \$3,000. The fact that Millburn had voted \$600 to install a manual training plant in the high school was also reported.

At this time the average yearly salary for teachers in the county was \$728.19.

The average age of a student entering the Millburn High School in 1905 was

thirteen years nine months. During the 1905-06 year there were twenty-six pupils enrolled in the Classical Course, and three in the Modern Language Course. No students were enrolled in the English Course, the Miscellaneous Course, or the Commercial or Business Course.

In the spring of 1907, it was reported that an art room had been fitted up on the third floor of the Short Hills School, and that the manual training room had been completed in the Washington School.

At this time J. Albert Kalb, who still lives in Millburn, was the supervising principal and in his report he indicated that Miss Georgia C. Cowan taught drawing and woodworking.

There was a total enrollment of 442 pupils in the schools with twenty-two of them being in the high school. Four students were graduated in 1907. [N.B. the list at the end of this chapter contains no names for 1907]

The Millburn Schools, under the direction of Mr. Kalb and eighteen teachers, completed a first half-century of remarkable growth. The next fifty years would bring forth even greater accomplishments.

### The Second Half-Century of Educational Progress

During the three year period beginning in September, 1907 and ending in June, 1910, the school enrollment increased from 442 to 520 pupils. The distribution of these pupils was as follows: Kindergarten, 94; grades 1 to 4, 227; grades 5 to 8, 156; and grades 9 to 12, 43. Evidently, kindergartens were started in Millburn during the school year 1909-10. Since they were first included in the 1910 report.

This report also indicates that a new building in Wyoming was nearly completed and would soon be ready for occupancy. The cost of the building was to be \$23,500, and it was to be thoroughly fireproof; its construction being of reinforced concrete. The site of the building was on Myrtle Avenue near Pine Street on a high terrace. The building was to be 75 feet long and 45 feet wide, and was to include four classrooms, a principal's office, a library, and a teachers' room. The interior arrangement was such that by raising partitions, a large assembly room could be made available for special uses.

In 1911, the White Oak Ridge School was improved by installing new desks, running water, and a telephone, and the grounds were beautified.

The end of the year report of 1912 indicated that a two-room concrete building was under construction at White Oak Ridge to replace a frame structure, and the 1913 report stated that the new school at White Oak Ridge had been in

use during the school year.

Therefore, the Wyoming School was first occupied on its present site in September, 1910, and the White Oak Ridge School in 1912. [N.B. editorial comments: No-just renamed then. No Bill Barr! - if you accept the previous paragraph (1912) this is correct]

Meanwhile, the school enrollment had increased to 593 by the end of the 1912-13 school year, and in 1922, the year before the high school moved from Short Hills School to what is now the junior high school, the enrollment had reached 949 pupils. During the fall of 1916, the schools of Essex County were late in opening because of the prevalence of infantile paralysis. Since the teachers reported for duty anyhow, a series of preschool meetings was held. Sometimes these meetings were of a general nature, and sometimes they were divided into sectional meetings of primary, grammar and high school teachers.

The record shows that "The leaders and instructions were in almost every instance school men and school women regularly employed in the county, and in many instances members of the local teaching body..."

Of these meetings County Superintendent Morelock said:

"I am strongly of the opinion that at least three days and probably a week before the opening of school should regularly be devoted to this kind of preparation, and that attendance upon these meetings should be made part of the contractual obligation of every teacher."

J. Albert Kalb was succeeded as supervising principal by Charles B. Dyke on October 20, 1915. [Board of Education Annual Report, February 1916, p. 6].

The planning began before the first world war, but the Board of Education's attempt to put through a building program was a failure. In 1920 the building program failed to pass again by two votes, but six months later it passed by a big majority.

The building, now part of the present junior high school, consisted of twelve rooms and a gymnasium-auditorium. Provisions were made to build additional classrooms and an auditorium which would extend back from the center part of the building, and to build other classrooms in a wing at the north end of the building.

The entire building, arranged on three floors, presented a completed facade to Old Short Hills Road and was, in effect, the first of a three stage building program. The athletic field was developed in its present location.

The corner-stone was laid on October 26, 1921, and contains a box which, in part, contains the following: copies of New York and Newark newspapers; coins from one penny to a silver dollar; photographs of all the schools and other public buildings; and photographs and news clippings about the football squad, debating team, etc. The high school junior annuals for 1918 and 1921 were also included as were annual reports of the Board of Education from 1910 through 1918, lists of the teachers employed in 1921-22, and a copy of the Corner-stone Laying Program.

William N. Runyon representing the Governor, and Chairman of the Town Committee, Walter R. Hine, made addresses and all of the school children of the district participated in the ceremonies.

The school opened in September, 1922, when the high school students moved down from the old Short Hills High School. New student organizations included boys' and girls' athletic associations and glee clubs, a radio club, and a school orchestra. There was also a school cafeteria.

Dean Emery was President of the Board of Education, and Walter A. Staub, [N. B.: this is re: 1929-1931 addition] chairman of the building committee. Robert Ritching was valedictorian of the class of 1931; and Doris Berstler was salutatorian.

Seven years later, in 1938, the school was enlarged again. The addition included four classrooms and a boys' locker room. The building was now capable of housing 850 students, and there were 916 students enrolled.

Mr. Dyke retired in 1937 and was succeeded by Dr. John R. Patterson.

The present South Mountain School was built in 1935 [N.B.: opened Sept. 1936], and five more rooms were added to it in 1948. At the present time, new facilities are being added to the school.

The Glenwood School was erected in 1939, and a six room extension was added in 1948. Since a new twelve room elementary school is planned for the Country Club Section, and should be ready for use by 1958, it is not likely that further additions will be made to the Glenwood School.

In 1935, there were 1,301 pupils in kindergarten to grade six in the township; by 1939 this number had dropped to 1,165; and in 1948 it had increased to 1,228.

As early as February, 1945, the Board of Education began to consider the construction of a new high school building. At first the thinking was along the



lines of a junior high school but, beginning in 1942, the high school enrollment began to decrease and the Board of Education decided to wait for further developments before making any definite move.

In the meantime, Dr. Patterson had retired as superintendent of schools in 1947, and was succeeded by Dr. Roosevelt Basler who, in turn, was succeeded by Dr. Lester B. Ball in 1950. The Millburn High School Yearbook of 1925 indicates that there were ten faculty members and among them was Mr. Robert E. Faddis, present senior high school principal, who joined the faculty in 1924.

There were sixteen Members in the graduating class of 1925, and the total four year high school enrolled 124 students.

When the football team played Chatham in 1924, one of the regular players was injured. Since there was no substitute, the game was halted until Herman Buncher, a roofer and member of the class of 1926, donned a suit and entered the game. There is no report as to how this interesting game turned out.

In 1928, additions were added to the Short Hills and Wyoming Schools. The Short Hills School addition consisted of a large auditorium and gymnasium which were added to the west end of the building, while the Wyoming School, built in 1910 and enlarged in 1920, received an auditorium and additional classrooms.

By 1930 there were 1558 pupils enrolled in the township with 223 of them in the high school. Consequently, at that time an auditorium, cafeteria, library, a second gymnasium, and an arts area were added.

Until 1930 the high school had been a four year school even though grades seven and eight were located in the same building but, with the new addition, Millburn became a six year junior-senior high school, and started the school year with 482 students.

When the graduation exercises were held in 1931 a thousand people filled the new auditorium. The program included the commencement exercises and the dedication of the new building. There were forty-two graduates; a new high for Millburn.

A survey made by The Institute of Field Studies, Columbia University in 1951, pointed out the need for new elementary school buildings and improvements and for a new high school. Consequently, in 1951 the old center section of the Short Hills School was torn down, a new section was constructed including a kindergarten, and the entire building was renovated and modernized. The school was occupied in 1952.

Since The Field Institute rated the Short Hills School as the poorest public school building in Millburn, it had been relatively easy to decide to rebuild it. The high school presented other problems.

After considerable discussion, both in the Board and the community the decision was reached to build a senior high school adjacent to the athletic field on Millburn Avenue.

On November 30th, 1956, there were 3,029 pupils enrolled in the Millburn Schools with 1,675 in the elementary schools, 762 in the junior high school, and 592 in the senior high school.

No one could have foreseen in December, 1857, that the three teachers instructing three poorly attended one-room schools in a remote and rural area would be the forerunners of the modern educational system which exists in the lovely suburban community of Millburn.

The three teachers have increased to 173, and the small frame buildings have been replaced by seven well-equipped modern structures.

Millburn students and graduates bring new honors to their schools and their community with each passing day.

The rising tide of progress has carried Millburn a long way toward her ultimate destiny. Who would dare to predict what the next hundred years will bring?

## **History of Millburn High School**

### **High School Alumni**

Sarah F. McChesney, '96

Mildred Little, '97

Agnes McKallor, '98  
Martha Condit, '98  
Henrietta Keeney, '98

Martha Woolsey, '99  
George W. Campbell, '99  
Gertrude Keeney, '99

Carrie McCaskie, '00  
Emma Hill, '00  
Bessie Woolsey, '00

Alice Bailey, '01  
Arthur Berstler, '01  
John Condit, '01  
Helen Keeney, '01  
Hattie McKallor, '01

Edith Ayres, '02  
Bessie Baker, '02  
Juliet Blood, '02  
Emille Hill, '02  
Florence McCaskie, '02  
Leslie Torrey, '02  
Charles Mundy, '02

Elsie Campbell, '03  
Edith Drake, '03  
Edith McCollum, '03  
Marguerite Ross, '03  
Jennie Squier, '03  
Myrtle Taylor, '03  
Grace Voorhees, '03

Annie McQuilken, '04  
George McCaskie, '04  
Esther Woolsey, '04

Hazel Doty, '05

Harold Bailey, '11  
Gretchen Doty, '11  
Esther Lind, '11  
Ross Meeker, '11  
Dorothy Thomas, '11  
Ethyl Taylor, '11  
James Van Ingen, '11  
Mary Vogelstein, '11

Sylvia Lind, '12  
Fred McFadden, '12  
Katherine Shuldham, '12  
Eunice Warner, '12  
Ruth Woolsey, '12

Helen L. Beers, '13  
Kenneth M. Lewis, '13  
Margaret Marshall, '13  
Percy R. Meeker, '13

Jean Baker, '14  
Katherine Campbell, '14  
Mary Ginty, '14  
Ruth Gosling, '14  
Marion Marshall, '14  
Anna Pflueger, '14  
John Skelly, '14

Edward Bell, '15  
David Brown, '15  
Sarah Willson, '15

John Cardone, '16  
Morris Jacobs, '16  
Elizabeth Morrison, '16  
Irene Rimback, '16

Roy L. Bahring, '17  
Verne L. Bahring, '17  
George K. Brown, '17  
Kathleen F. Caparn, '17  
Helen DeS. Cooke, '17  
Philip R. Lewis, '17  
Ella T. McFadden, '17

Raymond Marshall, '05

Ruth Baker, '06

Mira Blood, '06

Kathleen Cox, '06

Hattie Parsil, '06

Sadie Parsil, '06

Alta Robinson, '06

George Berstler, '08

Robert Campbell, '08

Dorothy Constantine, '08

Helen Glover, '08

Mary McCollum, '08

John Crozier, '10

Florence Douglas, '10

Harvey Meeker, '10

John Van Ingen, '10

Harry J. Silverstein, '17

Jacob M Silverstein, '17

Marjorie A. Woodruff, '17

Helen A. Arzinger, '18

Anna F. Casey, '18

Hazel B. Goff, '18

George W. Griffiths, '18

Elizabeth A. Kessler, '18

Myrtle Livingston, '18

Elizabeth Marcantonio, '18

Fanny Polansky, '18

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## CHAPTER XVI. A HISTORY OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS By Edward B. Kast, Headmaster

The beginning of independent school education in Millburn Township dates back to the second half of the nineteenth century. As early as 1880, before Mr. Stewart had purchased large tracts of land in Short Hills, the Rev. Horace Reid, Rector of St. Stephen's Church in Millburn, feeling the need of a school for his parishioners' children, started one in a colonial building in the rear of a house. This school ran until 1870 when the Reverend Mr. Reid moved nearer his church and started St. Stephen's Parish School. It was located At the corner of Old Short Hills Road and Hobart Avenue, and was called "Hobart Hall". A small school, called "Washington Hall" was held over McCullom's store at the "Four Corners."

About 1879, a building constructed and supported by Stewart Hartshorn, known as "The Heights Academy, Short Hills" was directed by Dr. Julius R. Rose, Rector of St. Stephen's Church. A Miss Sarah Bailey was one of his teachers. The Heights Academy was a boarding school for boys and young men from ten to twenty years of age and a day school for both boys and girls.

When Dr. Rose closed his school about 1883, it was taken over for a girls' school known as "The Bacquet Institute". Situated on the highest point in Short Hills, and directed by Miss Harriet Stuart Bacquet, the course of instruction included all branches of study necessary for a thorough education in English, German, French, and other modern languages, music, art, and the classics.

The "Music Hall" now known as "The Racquets Club" had become useful for many purposes and in 1882, Mrs. George Rose opened a school in a room in the basement which had been furnished for that purpose. There were about fifteen children in her group and at a later date, another school occupied other space in the basement. In addition to these, two sisters had started a school in a small house on Knollwood Road. A history of Short Hills published in 1884, says "In the basement of this striking and unique structure (Music Hall) near the tasteful little station, are kept two select schools." Who ran which school and when has not been recorded, but it is known that in this period Miss Curtiss, Mr. Runyon, Dr. Rich and Mr. Arnold all held sway at various times. Dr. Rich also conducted Presbyterian Church services in the same over-worked basement, and Mr. Arnold shortly became the first principal in the new school building constructed by Mr. Hartshorn directly above Christ Church.

The Budget, dated September 15, 1886, ran the following advertisement "Wiliston Seminary, Short Hills, New Jersey, Mrs. H.M. Willis, principal, Fall Term begins, Wednesday, September 15, 1886. Examinations for



Print

arrangements of classes Monday and Tuesday, September 13 and 14. All applications for boarding or day scholars should be made September 8th as the number will be limited."

Any further information about the Williston Seminary is not known as is the case of the "Short Hills Classical School." An announcement concerning this school appeared in "The News Item" dated March, 1888, as follows:

"The following is a list of the Scholars in the order of advancement:"

2d Form. 1, Charles Langdon Perry; 2, Fred'k. Bartholomew; 3, N. Harvey Stabb; 4, Charles Y. Wemple; 5, Frank T. Perry; 6, Jas. Robert Pitcher; Shell Form, 10; Lyman T. Perry; 11, Egbert B. Perry; 12 George L. Kobbe.  
The School Choir consists of Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9.

Marks were listed in French, Algebra, and Arithmetic and the final paragraph read as follows:

"Principal?Percy R. Harrison, M.A., late scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford. The Easter success Recess of this School will commence on Good Friday, and end with the following week."

Today, Millburn Township has three independent elementary schools, namely: St. Rose of Lima Parochial School, The Short Hills Country Day School, and Far Brook School.

St. Rose of Lima School probably came into formal existence about 1869, although as early as 1852 some classes were held intermittently in the home of Daniel Coughlan of Springfield. Two of the first teachers were M. R. Plunkett and Miss Emily Salt. About 1879 the newly formed religious order, the Sisters of Charity, were engaged to teach here. Before a school building was built, classes were held in an altered hat shop, and also in the church rectory. Sister Frances Dougherty was the first nun in charge of the school, The foundress of the Order Mother Xavier, spent two weeks here with the first Superior Sister. A succession of these women was to continue down through the years until they were replaced in 1952 by the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame. These nuns now assume the responsibility of caring for the children of the St. Rose of Lima School.

Starting with forty students, the school now has an enrollment of four hundred. Classes range from kindergarten through the eighth grade, and teach such subjects as drama, art work, physical education, basic skills and French. Ten nuns, two full and three part-time lay teachers instruct the courses. The Principal, Mother Saint Isabelle Marie, is also the Mother Superior of the Convent.

It was during the late 1880's that The Short Hills Country Day School began to emerge out of the mass of small independent schools. The present school building on Highland Avenue, was started in July, 1891, by Mr. Stewart Hartshorn. It is presumed that with the growth of this new community, Mr. Hartshorn saw the need of a definite and central school building. It was subsidized by Mr. Hartshorn, with Mr. Arnold acting as headmaster. He was followed shortly by Mr. Allen, during whose mastership the school was run on a military basis with wooden guns used when the student drilled.

On April 2, 1898, the school was incorporated and its name changed to The Short Hills Country Day School. In 1901 Mr. Twitchell rented the building from Mr. Hartshorn and ran it as headmaster until 1918. During that time the school prepared pupils directly for college. However, the War brought such a dearth of pupils that in 1918, Mr. Twitchell stopped renting the building from Mr. Hartshorn and a board of trustees was formed who kept Mr. Twitchell on as a salaried headmaster for one year more. The school has been organized in this manner every since that time.

George A. Land followed Mr. Twitchell as headmaster for only two years, and was succeeded by Harold B. Lance for four years.

In 1924 Mr. Albert E. Benning was appointed headmaster and his successful reign lasted for twenty-five years until the time of his retirement in 1945. Among other things, this period was marked by two important gifts. In 1930 the Hartshorn Estate gave the School Corporation the deed to the land on which the Lower School building stands; and in 1936 Uts Geberyskt gave the School the deeds to the original building built in 1891, and to the land on which it stands.

Mr. Edward R. Kast, the present head, was appointed headmaster in July, 1949, after serving as an assistant to Mr. Banning for three years. Since that time, the school has grown steadily to its present capacity enrollment of over two hundred boys and girls from Pre-Kindergarten through the Ninth grade, and in its physical plan which has been completely renovated and modernized, including the addition of a nine classroom building.

The School, with a teaching faculty of twenty and an administrative staff of two, offers to its students the traditional sound education, which prepares them for the better secondary schools.

FAR BROOK SCHOOL, is the third co-educational independent school in Millburn Township located on Great Hills Road, where The Buxton School, founded by Mrs. Danforth Geer in September, 1928, was established. The history of Far Brook School began in the Spring of 1948 when a group of

parents, interested in a very special kind of education, bought the property of Buxton, an experimental and popularly-labeled "progressive" school, which had moved to Massachusetts.

Mrs. Winifred S. Moore, the present principal had directed the Lowe Buxton School from 1946 and had created such dynamic enthusiasm among parents that this group raised a substantial amount of money toward the purchase and renovation of a school which she was asked to direct.

In the Spring of 1948 the new, cooperative, parent-owned Far Brook School elected its first Board of Trustees, who were to be responsible for the business management of the School, the educational philosophy and practice clearly defined as the prerogative of the director and the faculty. From the outset, Far Brook set about to develop its chosen responsibility in the community in the education of the gifted children regardless of race, religion or economic strata. The enrollment of the school was stabilized at about 165 students through the eighth grade. Gradually, a ninth grade is being established as a roundout of the Junior High School level.

Although Far Brook's chronological history is short, this parent-owned school has from the start been supported with enthusiasm and tremendous generosity, and not only in terms of financial support but in actual work of renovation and building, in skillful business management and in future planning.

Independent schools have served the citizens of Millburn Township for the past one hundred years. Their role in the community and in American education is a most important one and their contributions to all education are not inconsiderable, nor do they diminish with time. They share in common, along with better schools everywhere an interest in the individual student, the goal of stimulating the student's mind and molding his character, and a sincere dedication to a liberal arts education. Many include a study of religion and of non-dogmatic ethical and moral values.



## CHAPTER XVII. MILLBURN'S CHURCHES

### *The White Oak Ridge Chapel*

The history of Millburn's permanent churches begins with a day in October, 1831, when William Parsil, descendant of one of the first settlers in Millburn Township, called together his neighbors on the White Oak Ridge and talked to them of the need for establishing their own meeting place for a Sunday School and other Sabbath observances. Since 1823 people from the Ridge community had been attending services in the Chatham Village Presbyterian Church.

Going to Church was not an easy matter in those days, even under the best of conditions, but the spirit of religion seems to have been kept alive in Millburn no matter what the vicissitudes. As we have mentioned before, people walked to Elizabeth in the early days of the settlement; then Pastor Timothy Symmes conducted services for his small congregation in a little rough building on Main street, near what is now meeker place. That building disappeared so long ago that it is scarcely more than a matter of legend, but from it grew the Springfield Presbyterian Church which became the people's bulwark during the dreadful days of war. For many years after the Revolution adherents of other denominations travelled to Orange, Madison, and Chatham to satisfy their spiritual needs, and distance never seems to have dampened the ardor of the faithful. The Springfield Methodist Church and the Livingston Baptist Church were established early also and numbered some Millburn citizens among their congregations.

However, on the day when William Parsil talked to his neighbors he was following the instincts of his ancestors and establishing another pioneer outpost.

From that meeting grew the Oak Ridge Sunday School Association and the White Oak Ridge Chapel which on October 14, 1956, observed its 125th anniversary.

At first the meeting had no ordained minister and Mr. Parsil, noted as a singer, managed the school and led the singing. He was assisted in the Bible and catechism classes by Jacob Morehouse, John Denman, Aaron Ross, and Mrs. Parsil.

The group met in the one-room public school house which served the children of that section for many years. No written records are available as to the progress made by the Sunday School Association for the next few years. Undoubtedly like other organizations it had its good times and bad times, but it



Print

lived. After Mr. Parsil's death in 1850 the Sunday school had a desperate struggle and at times had to be temporarily disbanded, although the Rev. J. M. Ogden of Chatham came to preach once a month. The trouble was caused not only by the loss of Mr. Parsil's strong guiding hand, but by the loss of many old parishioners who had moved away or died.

In 1857, Mr. A. M. French was asked to reorganize the Sunday school, and with 16 pupils classes were reformed, teachers were appointed, and William H. Parsil, son of the founder, was made Secretary and Librarian. Mr. French continued to serve as Sunday School Superintendent for 22 years until 1879 when he resigned because of age. At the time of his resignation he said that he had driven more than 5,000 miles by horse and buggy to serve his church.

By 1860 the number of members had doubled and they no longer met in the school, but in the homes of members. Membership was not only confined to those of the Presbyterian faith, but Methodists, Baptists and Episcopalian families also joined and worked together in a harmonious union service. Dr. J. M. Ogden continued to preach once a month.

In 1865 there were 65 pupils and Miss Mary Wallace was added to the teaching staff. The one-room school house was no longer adequate, but the cost of a church building of their own still seemed prohibitive. However, in 1871, William H. Parsil provided the impetus by giving to the Association, land for the erection of a church. Other friends, numbering 62, came forward with funds and by October 22, 1871 the dedication of their building took place, and it was reported that after all debts were paid, \$15.26 still remained in the Treasury. The dedication exercises were conducted by the Rev. William C. Wallace and J. E. Hancock.

The Oak Ridge Union Sunday School Association was formed on June 26, 1871, and was eventually legally incorporated, with a Board of Trustees to handle its affairs.

Association with Mr. Parsil at that time were members of the Ross, Drew, Denman, and Morehouse families, all pioneer settlers on the "Ridge". It is interesting to find that descendants of some of those families are still active members in the Chapel.

The oldest living member now is Mrs. Nellie Doremus, who will be 94 years old on December 7, 1957. Mrs. Ross would be a distinguished member of any group. She came to Millburn in 1882 to teach in the White Oak Ridge Public School, so that she is the oldest living member of the Millburn Public School System. She served on the Board of Education, and helped organize and hold office in several Township Clubs.

The church building, as well as the congregation grew. A wing was added to the chapel, electric lights were installed. Another wing was added to the primary room, and finally a belfry was built, and in 1946 for the 115th anniversary of the founding, a bell calling the people to worship was rung for the first time by Halsey Vreeland, the oldest member of the church at that time. Preaching services fluctuated through the years, although the Sunday School operated fairly regularly. Since 1953, however, regular weekly services have been hold, and the work of the little chapel has been enlarged to include Scout Troops, Missionary Work, Young People's Societies, and other functions of a progressive modern church. Rev. P. H. Burgess is 1976 Pastor.

The 125th anniversary service on October 14, 1956, brought people from all over, including Township governing officials, to pay tribute to a small religious body which had grown strong against many odds.

### *St. Stephen's Church*

The next church to become permanently established here was St. Stephen's, and its beginnings go back to an upper room over a store in Millburn center. Most people called Millburn "Millville" then, and its population of less than 1,500 were farmers, millworkers, a few mill owners, and a handful of others who were artisans, storekeepers, and mechanics. In the upstairs room on October 17, 1851, sixty people waited for the Rev. Eugene Augustus Hoffman, a missionary sent out by Grace Protestant Episcopal Church in Elizabeth, and, as events proved, listened to him earnestly.

The time was evidently ripe for the establishment of a church here. With the exception of the White Oak Ridge Sunday School Association, there was no Protestant Church of any kind between Springfield and Livingston. Sixty adults out of the small population of the day was a goodsized gathering for a first meeting of any kind, and the report made by the Rev. Mr. Hoffman to his superiors of the Diocese of New Jersey, at its annual convention held the next May, points to the fact that the people were eager for a church and were not particular as to its denomination. Few of them were adherents of the Episcopal faith for Mr. Hoffman writes, in his report:

"By your direction I commenced holding services in Millville, on Wednesday evening, 17th October, 1851. Since that time to the present (1st May) the services have been continued weekly, with but two exceptions. The attendance has averaged from 70 to 80 persons. Though the people were entirely ignorant of the services of our Church, when they were commenced, a growing interest has been shown in them; and the responses are now made with as much propriety as in many old Parishes. On the 1st of April we obtained the permanent use of a convention room; and the attendance has been greatly increased. I have no doubt that if it were possible for me to hold a service there on the Lord's Day a congregation of one hundred and fifty persons would be

constantly in attendance. The position of Millville is central, and commands a large field, already white for the harvest..."

The Rev. Hoffman's hopes were soon to be realized for the Millville group numbered among its member's one who had the means and the desire to help Mr. Hoffman reap his harvest. That man was Israel D. Condit who had reached a position of wealth and influence in the community. He not only assumed the position of leader in the absence of a visiting minister, but opened his home on Millburn avenue to the needs of the young parish. on January 17, 1853, he called a meeting there to elect a first vestry, and Mr. Condit and Mr. Hoffman were appointed to select a name. Two days later, in the presence of the Rt. Rev. George W. Doane, Episcopal Bishop of New Jersey, and seven visiting clergymen, the group was incorporated as the "Rector, Wardens, and Vestry of St. Stephen's Church, Millville." Mr. Condit and George W. Campbell were wardens, and the seven vestrymen were Isaac M. Hand, Hugh Allcock, Isaac Martin, Amzi Condit, William Marshall, Thomas C. Bradbury, and Edward Clayton. The name, "Millburn," was substituted for Millville after Millburn's incorporation.

After that, events moved rapidly. A building committee was named immediately, and Mr. Condit donated a piece of land, 150 x 200 on Main street, across from his mill, and the cornerstone was laid on August 29, 1853. The building was consecrated by Bishop Doane on July 24, 1856.

The building, which is the building we still know as St. Stephen's accommodated 300 people. It was built almost entirely of wood, with oaken beams, many handhewn from trees on the property, and with a slate roof which has endured for more than a hundred years. Much of the construction was held together with handcarved wooden pegs, and where nails were needed, hand made nails from Samuel Bailey's old forge were provided.

The church was built according to plans of A W. Priest and the beautiful simplicity of its American Gothic style is a tribute to both the parishioners and Mr. Priest, for the prevailing style of that period was a very ornate one. The entire cost of the church, the organ, and the bell was about \$9,000, to which Mr. Condit made a major donation.

In January, 1856, Rev. Horace Hall Reid was appointed as the first regular rector and he served until 1859. The Rev. Mr. Reid was also interested in education, for soon after he came here he founded the first private school, Hobart Hall, which stood behind his house at the corner of Hobart avenue and Old Short Hills road. His wife was one of the first teachers. The Rev. Mr. Reid also served as Superintendent of Millburn's Public School System.

In March, 1870, St. Stephen's established its own parochial school in a house

donated by Mr. Condit and known as "The Mountain House." This building is still standing on Church street. Dr. Julius David Rose, an eminent scholar of his day, was appointed headmaster and the school flourished for many years. The first Board of Trustees of the School provide us today with the names of some prominent Millburn citizens of that day?besides Mr. Condit, Lawrence Benedict, Edward S. Renwick, George W. Campbell, Jr., A. H. Dyett and Dr. E. T. Whittingham served in this capacity.

The first child baptized in St. Stephen's was William John Hamilton, and the present cross on the steeple was given in the 1930's as a memorial to him. The first organist was Reinhold Summers who had come to the United States in the 1850's from Germany. Mr. Summers was one of the many liberals who were political refugees from the Germany of that time seeking asylum in the United States. He taught music here and composed religious music for his adopted church. He was succeeded on his death in 1869 by miss Mary Amelia Park who continued to serve for 54 years. Miss Park also taught Sunday School there for over 70 years which would certainly seem to be an all time record.

Mr. Condit continued as a prime benefactor of the church helping it through many financial crises, and also donated to it eight acres of land for a cemetery, consecrated on October 5, 1858. Edward S. Renwick was another who gave it substantial aid, and in the 1930's, Edward S. Pettigrew donated the cemetery gates, fences, complete landscaping of the church grounds and cemetery, and several modern improvements to the building. It is interesting to note the landscaping was designed by Frank Schmidt, great grandson of William Marshall who had laid out the original plan for the cemetery.

On July 4, 1886, St. Stephen's Church celebrated its own independence. The "Millburn Budget" of July 7, 1886, reported that St. Stephen's was now independent of any encumbrance or debt, the mortgage of \$2,657.00 having been paid. The Rev. T. I. Holcombe's sermon that day has present day overtones. He talked on the relationship between Capital and Labor, as one of the serious questions of the times, and also warned against "Communists and Anarchists" who were almost without exception agnostics and infidels."

In October, 1951, St. Stephen's observed its Centennial. The Rev. Hugh Wentworth Dickinson became Rector in March, 1922, and served St. Stephen's until his retirement on June 15, 1957, a longer pastorate than any in the Township. The new Rector, Rev. James Elliott Lindsley, assumed his pulpit on September 1, 1957. The 1976 Rector is Rev. Joseph D. Herring.

### *St. Rose of Lima R.C. Church*

The first services for Catholics in this vicinity were conducted by priests from

St. Peter's Church, Barclay Street, New York, in 1804 or 1805. They were held rather infrequently for a visit by a priest entailed a long journey by boat from New York to Elizabeth and then by stage to his destination. The first masses were read out-of-doors or in the home of some hospitable church member. However, the first mass for which a definite record has been kept, was said at the home of Lavelle duBerceau on Park Avenue, Madison, on July 30, 1825.

Many of the attendants at those first services were French emigrants who had been driven out of France, Santo Domingo, Martinique, and Guadeloupe by revolutions there. Some had also come from France with Lafayette, or during the French Revolution. Many settled along the road from Elizabeth to Bottle Neck (Madison).

Some of them lived in Springfield. That there were French families living nearby soon after the beginning of the 19th century is verified by the fact that in the New Jersey Journal (Elizabeth Daily Journal) various items appear in which French family names are involved. One date-lined, Springfield, May 10, 1801, is an offer of \$10.00 reward for the return of a Negro man named Cuff, 22 years of age, who had run away from F. Della Croix, on July 11, 1801, S. Dalla Croix of Springfield advertised that he had lost his old snuff box, and on May 11, 1806, Tregait deBeaumont announced that he would open a Dancing School in Elizabeth. The names of some of the other families living adjacent to Morris Turnpike were Beaupland who built his home on the present Bottle Hill Tavernland; Baron deBeisaubin who was Louis XVI's bodyguard, Blanchet, and Thebaud. Some of these families returned to their homes when peace came, but others stayed and their descendants are still living in Madison.

After St. John's Church was built in Mulberry Street, Newark, in 1827, the Rev. P. Moran made monthly journeys to the parish which comprised of Springfield and the present Millburn, and conducted services at the home of Charles Fury of Springfield. on the map of 1850 the name "C. Fury" appears on Morris Avenue. The Furys and Mrs. Matthew Dougherty were said to be the only Catholic families living in Springfield at that time, but presumably others from outlying districts attended in sufficient numbers to make a small congregation.

By 1841 the number had increased. Besides the Furys, and Doughertys, Arthur McCormick, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Lynch, Mr. And Mrs. Michael English, Daniel Coughlan and Bryan Dunig(c)an, and their families, were living in Springfield, and the Terence Hogan and John Kearney families and Maurice Lonergan, had settled in Millburn. Springfield then became a mission of the Madison church, and in 1847 the Rev. Luis Dominic Senez, a French priest, was assigned to celebrate Mass and teach catechism to the children, fairly regularly, at the homes of Michael English or Daniel Coughlan in Springfield, and John Hogan, on "the short hills road" (now 79 Old Short Hills road). Father Senez was an old-time missionary. it is said that he would ride from town to town, to venues, or public sales, or wherever crowds gathered, seeking out

members of his faith, informing them of an approaching service, and urging them to be present.

In 1849 on Father Senez's return to France, Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid of the Madison church took over the Springfield assignment. From a letter written by him several years later, when he had become the Bishop of Rochester, some of the facts of his early days in Springfield may be ascertained.

Writing to the Rev. James H. Corrigan, President of Seton Hall College in 1884, Bishop McQuaid says:

"Your favor of the 26th is at hand. Some of the facts relative to the opening of the Mission in Springfield I can furnish. When I took charge of Springfield as an outlying mission of Madison in April, 1848, Mass had been said only on weekdays. After the opening of the Morristown Church (another mission out of Madison), in 1848, Mass was said in Springfield once a month on Sunday. That Sunday, Morristown was left without a Mass.

In 1852 owing to increasing numbers it was thought advisable to build a church..."

Bishop McQuaid then goes on to explain that in proceeding to buy a lot for a church it was necessary to proceed warily. Religious tolerance had yet hardly become universal and there was still much prejudice against Catholics having a church here. A suitable site was finally found in Springfield on the main road "leading to Elizabeth where the road from Newark strikes in." (probably near the intersection of Millburn avenue and Morris turnpike). A contract was entered into with the owner to purchase for \$250.00 an acre. However, when word got around that the property was being purchased in order to erect a Catholic church the owner refused to go ahead with the sale, blaming his withdrawal on his wife's refusal to sign the papers. Negotiations were carried on further, and the price was raised, but the matter was eventually dropped.

However, the Church's good friend, Daniel Coughlan, came forward with an offer of an acre of land free, and his offer was finally accepted. Bishop McQuaid says that the offer had always been open, but because the ground was wet and not very desirable for any building purposes, they had hoped to purchase a better site. Again referring to the 1850 map, the Coughlan property is placed on the northwesterly side of Morris turnpike, southeast of the present Short Hills avenue. A brook then ran through the property. Work was commenced on the church building on the Coughlan property in October, 1852, and the building was blessed by the Very Rev. John Loughlin, Vicar General of New York, on the Sunday after Christmas, 1852. The church was 40 x 30 feet, and cost \$1600.00. On the day of dedication all indebtedness had been paid, except for two notes of \$100.00 each. The money was collected,

according to the old collection book, in small sums from all over the Madison mission outposts, including Morristown, Mendham, Baskingridge, Providence, Chatham, Columbia, Hanover, Whippany, Speedwell, etc.

In September, 1853, Father McQuaid was transferred to Newark and the Rev. Father Michael A. Madden took charge of the Madison church which continued to minister to Springfield. The Springfield church prospered and an addition was built to it in 1855.

After the removal of Seton Hall College from Madison to South Orange in 1860, Springfield came under the administration of the priests of the College. Bishop McQuaid, in his letter above referred to said, "it did the young priests of the College good to ride over on a crispy winter's morning to get a slight taste of the missionary life."

The Church was not without troubles. Once lightning destroyed the sanctuary. A series of acts of vandalism were committed against it. In 1859 it was robbed, the carpets torn from the floor and scattered in shreds about the edifice and church vestments were destroyed. Soon after 1860 the Catholic population of Millburn increased over Springfield to such an extent that plans were made to move the church here. Father Louis Schneider assumed charge of the Springfield church in 1868, and by his efforts the present site of St. Rose of Lima's in Short Hills was purchased, consisting then of six acres of land on which were located a dwelling house and hat shop. The shop was later remodelled for a parochial school and Mass was said in it for a time. Father Schneider is buried in St. Rose's Cemetery here in accordance with his wish.

The Rev. L. S. Dagnault became the first resident pastor here. He also attended Cranford and Westfield, and later Union was added to the duties of the St. Rose of Lima pastorate, so that Union residents no longer had to walk or ride four miles to attend church. In 1880 the church building was moved from Springfield to the present site of St. Rose of Lima's. It is said to have been six weeks on the road during the course of its one-third of a mile journey.

In an article appearing in the Newark Evening News, at an unknown date, but probably sometime in the 1880's, it says:

"St. Rose's Church is small and not imposing. It is not surmounted by skyscraping steeples or cross, yet its walls have enclosed many an eloquent sermon and in it have ministered at one time or another as Pastor more priests who have attained eminence in the Catholic church than in any other parish in New Jersey..."

The article then goes on to cite as examples, Father McQuaid who became Bishop of Rochester; Father W. M. Wigger who became Bishop of the Newark



Diocese; Michael A. Corrigan, Archbishop of New York, and James H. Corrigan, President of Seton Hall.

Another Pastor who should be mentioned in this history is the Rev. Francis J. Hourigan who was drowned in Manasquan on July 11, 1933, while attempting to rescue a young girl. The girl was saved, but he died.

The little wooden church moved over from Springfield was replaced by a brick church in 1912, and the latter church was again replaced by the present beautiful American Colonial building in 1955. The present Pastor is the Rev. James F. Ryan. The 1976 Pastor is Bishop John Dougherty.

### *First Baptist Church, Millburn*

Mrs. Isabella Lee became 70 years of age in 1857, the year Millburn Township was incorporated. At the age of 70 most people have either retired, or are seriously thinking of giving up most activities. Mrs. Lee, however, if she took notice of her birthday at all, paid it little heed, for she was soon to step into Millburn's history as the founder of the Millburn Baptist Church, and her life's real work was to begin. For the remaining 14 years of her life, and until her death in 1871, she would be its benefactor and ardent supporter.

For one or two years previous to 1858, services according to the tenets of the Baptist creed had been held intermittently in Washington Hall on Millburn avenue. In the summer of 1858, Mrs. Lee promoted a meeting to consider organizing a Baptist Church. A Baptist Church could be legally incorporated at that time by a group of representatives from existing churches. The call, therefore, went out to neighboring churches, but only four responded. However, Mrs. Lee's devotion to her task was not dampened and another call went out to which delegates from eight churches came to consider such an organization. As 14 persons had signified their intention to join the proposed church, the delegates recommended that a church be established, and a public meeting called for that purpose, on October 18, 1858. The meeting took place as planned. Nine members became Trustees. Besides Mrs. Lee the others were Samuel Edwards, Sidney W. Edwards, William Hastings, James James, Mrs. Sally Drew, Mrs. Catherine Green, Mrs. Susanna Marsh and Mrs. Julia A. Spangler. Articles of faith were drawn up and eventually the church was admitted into the fellowship of the East New Jersey Baptist Association. When the Northern New Jersey Baptist Association was organized in 1872, it became a member of that governing body. The Rev. H. C. Townley, a young graduate of Rochester University became the first Pastor. For a time the little congregation continued to meet in Washington Hall, although on fine Sundays in the summer of that first year they met in David Brison's wooded grove which was located approximately where Whitney road now lies.

However, Mrs. Lee then donated land she had purchased at the corner of Millburn avenue and Spring street, and \$1,000.00 in cash for the building of an edifice. Henry Cyphers of Newark was engaged as builder, and the cornerstone was laid on August 10, 1859. Into the cornerstone went a copy of the New Testament, copies of the articles of faith and covenant, the names of the trustees and building committee, minutes of various Baptist bodies in the State, copies of Baptist newspapers, and a daguerreotype of Mrs. Lee.

The Church had many struggles in its early days. The Congregation was small. Some of its more affluent members suffered in the Civil War financial depression. Funds were lacking to pay the minister and make needed repairs. Indeed, in 1866, the annual report of the State Baptist Convention speaks of the Millburn Church as "nobly pushing her way up through obstacles which at one time seemed unsurmountable." It was said of Mrs. Lee that she would not keep a carriage for herself so that she would have more to give to her church.

Other difficulties arose. A Baptist Church formed in Summit took away some members of the congregation. Lightning struck the spire. Legal difficulties were encountered because of some technicalities overlooked in the original incorporation and the land title had to be cleared. But the spirit of the church remained strong, and the few faithful members never gave up. Finally, the tide turned. A revival set in. A part-time minister was found to serve for \$6.50 a week and use of the parsonage. A plea for funds to renovate the structure went out. Practically the whole building had to have repairs. A report of the day stated that "the roof had decayed; the sides were bulging out because of structural weaknesses, the interior needed remodeling and everything from the weathervane to the cellar needed repairs." But the money was found and over \$3,500 was paid out for the necessary work, and in February, 1889, a rededication of the church took place. The Short Hills "Item" of July, 1889, reported that the Church was free of debt other than the mortgage of \$3,000 for the Parsonage.

The Millburn Baptist Church has had 19 Pastors. The present minister, Rev. Romaine F. Bateman, began his pastorate on October 4, 1931, which makes him, in point of years served, Millburn's senior minister, now that Mr. Dickinson is no longer here.

### *The Wyoming Presbyterian Church*

Few railroad stations have had the distinction of serving every seventh day as a House of God, yet that honor began for the little building owned by the D. L. & W. Railroad, near the northeast corner of Wyoming and Glen avenues (then called Laurel street) on Sunday, November 9, 1873, when the group which was to become the Wyoming Presbyterian Church gathered there that Sunday morning to hear the Rev. Brown Emerson preach his first sermon on Millburn Township. Thirty people assembled that morning, which must have included

every man, woman, and child in that section of the Township.

Rev. Emerson chose his text well. Seeking in Genesis, he read about Jacob's vision and his building of a holy place out of a stone and holy oil. Jacob named it "Beth El" which, of course, are the Hebrew words for "House of God." Jacob's exclamation was the text for Mr. Emerson's sermon:

"How dreadful is this place! This is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" (Genesis 28:7).

Rev. Mr. Emerson had come to Wyoming seeking health. He had been born in New England, but a few years before 1873 he had moved to southern New Jersey, and finally came here. There were no Sunday trains, so that the decision to turn the station to good use on Sunday was a happy thought, for the people there who "wanted preaching and a Sunday School." Mr. Emerson and his supporters petitioned the Presbytery of Morris and orange for recognition, and on April 21, 1875, the "First Presbyterian Church of Wyoming, New Jersey" was officially created.

The Church had fourteen members. Besides the Rev. Mr. Emerson and Catherine, his wife, they were Murdock Howell and Sallie, his wife, Luther W. Badger and Jennie, his wife, Isaac H. Clearman and Mary, his wife, Robert C. Melvain and Sophia, his wife, Jacob Hardenburgh, Elizabeth, his wife, and Julia Ellen, their daughter, and Mrs. Helen Barnes. Mr. Emerson's daughter, Isabella, later Mrs. Frederick R. Stoneall) who would be, in Millburn's Centennial year of 1957, the Church's oldest living member, had not yet been born in the year her father created his "Beth El" out of a railroad station.

Not too long after the church came into official existence, Mr. Emerson again became ill, and the church was forced to struggle along without a minister, and in fact had no duly appointed minister until 1886 when the Rev. Thomas Heywood became the first installed minister.

Without a minister, and with only fourteen members, the normal thing would have been for the congregation to fall apart in a short time, or seek religious affiliation elsewhere. However, that did not happen, for the decision to build prevailed. In 1878 they purchased land from Luther W. Badger and in 1883 Edward Hand gave them an adjoining plot, and a wooden church was erected on the site of the present church, at a cost of \$3,141.96. This cost covered not only the building, but the horse sheds, equipment and insurance. The first service in it was held on December 31, 1883.

When the Rev. Heywood was called to take the pastorate he was hailed as "an earnest worker in the fields of temperance and religion," the former qualification being an extremely important recommendation for him in those

days when the "Demon Ran" was being fought so furiously all over the land.

Mr. Heywood had hardly taken his position, however, when legal troubles beset his church. A member of the Presbytery discovered that the church had not been properly organized and the church was put under the control of a commission until the requirements could be met. The Commission's control lasted from 1886 until 1890 when Rev. Mr. Stephen C. Leonard was called to be a part time minister.

The Rev. Brown Emerson died on June 16, 1887, in the midst of these difficulties and the church lost its most valiant friend. In the sessions record of the Elders for that year the entry appears that "To his (Mr. Emerson's) fostering care the church mainly owes its existence. He died respected and beloved by the whole community."

The Church had a succession of ministers, sometime part time only, sometimes a supplied preacher, but the membership rose slowly and steadily, first to 18, then to 35; to 48 in 1910, to 55 in 1912, to 62 in 1913. The Rev. George T. Eddy's ministry lasted 12 years, until 1925, and was the longest in the history of the organization up to that time. The membership rose from 62 in 1913 to 120 in 1925 when he resigned. Rev. Eddy's record as minister was later exceeded by that of Rev. Ralph H. Read who served from 1937 until 1954.

In 1931 the physical facilities of the church were inadequate for its constantly increasing membership and Robert Upjohn was engaged to make plans for a new building. The result was the new church which we see today, of simple New England Colonial architecture, dedicated on June 5, 1932. The cost was \$61,031.92.

The gutting by the destructive fire of 1956 brought sorrow to every citizen of Millburn who had come to love the sight of the slim Sir Christopher Wren type steeple rising above the trees on the mountainside. The wing on Linden street which houses the church school, dedicated on December 20, 1951, escaped the full force of the fire.

As of 1956 the Congregation has grown from 14 in 1875 to over 700, but the same strong will which had carried the church through the lean, hard years has now restored the building from the ravages of the fire. Fortunately the white spire was not destroyed and through the quick and efficient work of skillful members of the Congregation, temporary electric line was rigged up immediately, powered by current supplied by neighbors, to restore the lighting the evening after the fire to one of Millburn's best known landmarks. Rev. Dr. Donald Morrison Meisel assumed his duties on January 1, 1955. Rev. Ronald W. Johnson is Minister (1976).

## *Christ Church in Short Hills*

The first meeting, out of which grew Christ Church in Short Hills, was held on March 28, 1882. The "News Item" of October, 1888, says the meeting was held at the home of William M. Deen, which was located at 19 Chestnut place. Other accounts say it was held in the Music Hall. However, although the place of this historic meeting may not be fixed, the date and purpose are certain. It was called to discuss the means whereby an Episcopal Church could be established in Short Hills. The first step was the obtaining of the consent of St. Stephen's Church, Millburn, and of Bishop Thomas A. Starkey, of the Diocese of New Jersey.

The next day, March 29, fortified by a petition signed by a "majority" of the residents of Short Hills, a committee called on the Rev. Dr. Lewis P. Clover, Rector of St. Stephen's and sought his approval. It is interesting here to note that a "majority" of the residents actually numbered 18 men. Stewart Hartshorn led the signers and the others were William R. Bliss, James R. Pitcher, Charles T. Root, George M. S. Horton, V. March, Devereau Toler, C. S. Henry, W. I. Russell, L. C. Goodrich, A. B. Jennings, Wellington Campbell, M.D., A. C. C. Foye, C. H. Humphrey, John H. Bradbury, William M. Deen, DeLacy Cleveland and William E. Toler.

Although Dr. Clover received the committee cordially, he asked that the request for approval be put in writing which the committee proceeded to do immediately. The letter was signed by John W. Bradbury and W. M. Deen, and it stated that the Parish boundary was to embrace "all that section of Millburn Township lying north of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, from the Summit line to the Orange Mountains."

Strange as it seems now, no answer to that letter was ever received, and word soon spread that the Vestrymen of St. Stephens 23.

were opposed to the establishment of another church of the same denomination nearby. But the Committee was not deterred from its purpose. A petition was made to the Diocese and to St. Peter's Church, Morristown, and thereafter a hearing was called by the Diocese's Standing Committee for April 19. At the hearing, St. Stephen's representative asked for an adjournment in order for him to be able to gather additional facts to support their view. This request was granted. The Diocesan Committee then sent a set of questions to the Christ Church Committee asking a few pertinent questions: one, was it proposed to purchase land and pay for same, and to whom would the land be conveyed?; two, was it proposed to build a church and who would pay for it? and three, what would be the probable source of the support of the parish thereafter?

In a history of Christ Church compiled in 1920, an explanation and apology was made for the attitude of St. Stephen's at that time. The writer said,

"The formation of an Episcopal Church in Short Hills would be likely to result in the immediate withdrawal from the older parish of some of its most useful members, would deprive it of much of its revenue, and would, perhaps, for all time, divert the source of its natural growth and development. Its very existence was threatened, and to those of its members who had been brought up in the older parish, and loved it, such a prospect was truly devastating."

However, at the end of April, 1882, when the Committee here received the questions from the Diocese it took its troubles to Stewart Hartshorn, Devereaux Toler, John H. Bradbury, DeLancy Cleveland and William M. Deen called on him personally. Mr. Hartshorn then came forward with an offer which, as events proved, amply satisfied the Diocesan authorities and removed all doubts as the proposed church becoming a charge on the Diocese. Mr. Hartshorn not only promised to donate a suitable piece of ground, but would also donate \$1,000.00 in cash toward the erection of a building, or would build the building himself charging the parish as rent only the interest on the cost. The former offer was eventually accepted.

The third question asked by the Diocese was answered, temporarily at least, by the collection of \$1,140.00 in advance subscriptions toward the support of the Parish.

Finally, on the 17th of May at the home of Daniel Dodd in Newark all parties met. The minutes report that a "full and warm discussion was had on both sides." The final decision of the Diocesan Committee was received on July 8, 1882, consenting to the formation of Christ Church in Short Hills, Township of Millburn, and the formal canonical consent was received from Bishop Starkey in September.

On September 20, 1882, the organization was completed. John H. Bradbury and DeLancy Cleveland were elected Wardens, and Stewart Hartshorn, William M. Deen, James R. Pitcher, Devereux Toler and Dr. George H. Rose were elected vestrymen. A communion service, the first gift of its kind, was received that day from Dr. Rose.

The first big, and for a time, it seemed, almost unsurmountable, steps were passed, and all the new Parish needed was a minister and a place of worship. Mr. Hartshorn quickly supplied the latter. A room on the ground floor of his Music Hall was fitted up as a chapel, and a young man, Rev. Frank L. Humphreys of nearby St. Cloud, was asked to conduct the first service, on October 15, 1882. The collection that day amounted to \$15.26 which was considered munificent. Two weeks later Mr. Humphrey was called to the

Rectorship at a salary of \$1,000 a year, and on December 1, 1882, he assumed charge of the Parish as its first Rector. Mr. D. Spinning was engaged as Sexton at a salary of \$1.00 a week, payable monthly. Mr. Spinning served for more than forty consecutive years.

The parish was then legally incorporated as "The Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church in Short Hills," and plans were made for the building of a church to seat 200 people and cost about \$5,000. Charles A. Rich was selected as the architect. The original building, the nucleus of which is still used today, was of stone 70 x 25 feet, with porch, nave and chancel, low walls, a bell turret and a terra cotta interior finish.

Even as today the estimated cost of the building was exceeded, and in the end the new church cost \$7,500.00. A pipe organ costing about \$1,275 was purchased by subscriptions. The Church was completed under the Rectorship of Rev. M. M. Fothergill and the little congregation met in the finished building for the first time on Trinity Sunday, June 8, 1884. The Church was consecrated on November 13, 1884. Many of the furnishings were gifts from the parishioners, some donated as memorials, and included the altar and reredos, a brass cross and vases, brass altar rail, marble font, oak pulpit, clergy stalls, alms box, credence, a carved oak Bishop's chair, altar hangings, an Agnus Dei and a bell which summoned the congregation first on Whitsunday of 1886.

For about 25 years the church depended for its support mainly on rental received from pews, but in May, 1909, that charge was discontinued as offerings became sufficient to carry costs.

The first home of the Rector was in the residence of F. H. Copeland on Short Hills road, but in 1886, Mr. Hartshorn donated a plot of ground for the building of a rectory, and in May, 1888, the present rectory was completed at a total cost of \$6,496.00, exclusive of furnishings.

The next few years, following the completion of the Church, saw it struggling through many financial crises. The principal reason for this situation seems to have been that the population of Short Hills at that time was a transient one. Many rented homes for a year or two and then returned to the city or elsewhere, so that a firm hard core of parishioners to whom the support of their church was a first consideration, had not been formed. At one time a paid organist had to be dispensed with; another time Mr. Spinning was asked to accept \$15.00 in full payment of a \$25.00 bill for extra services and expenses, because the extra \$10.00 would have been a hardship. But gradually, the membership increased and the deficits decreased, and as people began to make Short Hills their permanent year round homes, loyal and generous friends stood by in emergencies.

The membership finally outgrew the building and changes and additions were made in 1907, 1916 and 1936, and since 1950 substantial enlargements have been undertaken and more are being planned. Another generous gift of land by Mr. Hartshorn made possible the construction of a parish house and its later improvement. That was the fourth substantial gift of land by Mr. Hartshorn.

Christ Church has had only three Rectors since 1885, which seems like a record. Dr. Napoleon Barrows took over the Rectorship on August 25, 1885, and served until May 31, 1904. He was succeeded by Rev. Charles Malcolm Douglas who was Rector until 1940. The Rev. Herbert H. Cooper who had been selected in 1935 to assist Rev. Mr. Douglas became the Rector in 1940. Rev. George W. R. MacCray is Rector today.

#### Congregation B'Nai Israel (History prepared by Dr. Max Gruenewald)

The origin of what was to become Congregation B'nai Israel of Millburn can be traced back to the beginning of this century. Jewish families, few in number, residing in Millburn, Springfield, Vaushall and Union, met for religious services in private homes or in rented stores. Later on for several years, High Holy Day Services were held in the Parish House of St. Stephen's Church with Rev. Hugh W. Dickinson extending the hospitality of his church to the Jewish group.

Although the number of Jewish families increased steadily, it was not until 1924 that ground on Lackawanna place was purchased from the Casa Colombo Club and that a contract was signed with the firm of Rieber & Long for the building of a Synagogue. At the laying of the cornerstone, Rev. Hugh W. Dickenson and Rev. LeRoy Lincoln, ministers of St. Stephen's Church, and Millburn Baptist Church, respectively, participated, thus lending emphasis to the fact that this first Jewish house of worship had come about not only through the determined effort of the pioneering Jewish families, but also through the generous assistance of Christian neighbors.

The building was completed just before the High Holy Days of the year 1925. During the following years the Congregation was consolidated. Classes were instituted for the children and rooms in the temple were made available for social and cultural needs of young and old. The classes developed into a regular religious school with Mrs. Rae Hoffman as principal. In 1943, Melvin Kieffer was installed as the first Rabbi. At that time about 80 families belonged to the Congregation. When Rabbi Kieffer joined the army as a chaplain in 1944, Dr. Max Gruenewald substituted for him. In the fall of 1946, he became Rabbi Kieffer's successor.

Immediately after Dr. Gruenewald's installation plans were formulated for the purchase of a site for a new synagogue. Through negotiations with the Township Committee the present site at 162 Millburn avenue was eventually



obtained in exchange for the old synagogue on Lackawanna place.

Percival Goodman was chosen as the architect for the new building, and the firm of O. A. Peterson was entrusted with the construction. At a congregation meeting Percival Goodman, who is also a Professor at Columbia University, in the School of Architecture, explained his thoughts about "Building a Synagogue in America in our time," his plans were approved.

On May 14, 1949, ground was broken and on October 8, 1950, the laying of the cornerstone took place. The new synagogue was dedicated on April 29, 1951, with Dr. Max Arzt, Professor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, delivering the dedicatory address. The architecture of the building immediately attracted nationwide attention. It was hailed as an outstanding example of modern religious architecture. It was also the first one to introduce abstract art. Three artists were commissioned. Adolph Gottlieb designed the Ark Curtain, Robert Motherwell created the mural, and Herbert Ferber the sculpture, "The Burning Bush." The actual work of making most of the Ark Curtain, including sewing, embroidery, applique work, etc. was done under Mr. Gottlieb's direction by the women of the Temple who gave their time and skills to its creation. These works of art were dedicated at a ceremony highlighted by an address of Renee d'Harmoncourt, Director of the Museum of Modern Art of New York City. Two stones of synagogues in Mannheim, Germany, destroyed by the Nazis, were sent to Millburn through the American Jewish Army Chaplain stationed in Heidelberg. They were set in the Memorial wall of Millburn's synagogue.

The continued growth of the congregation made the acquisition of more land necessary, and an annex was erected including additional school rooms, a library, and a large auditorium. The same architect and contractor were employed for the new building, and it was dedicated on January 22, 1956, with Herbert Abeles, President of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Board, as guest speaker.

In 1946 there were 48 children taught by two teachers; at the end of 1956, there were 250 children, taught by five teachers. The Synagogue is affiliated with the United Synagogue of America. Its main services are conducted by Dr. Gruenewald, Michael Alexander the Cantor, and a voluntary Choir of members. 1976 is Rabbi DeVictor A. Mirelman. Dr. Max Gruenewald Rabbi Emeritus.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon) Short Hills Ward.  
(History prepared by Bishop E.M. Thomas)

Like most branches of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, the Short Hills Ward had very small and humble beginnings. It started as a small

missionary church in Newark in July, 1922, when G. Stanley McAllister, then a Mormon missionary, later a vice president of Lord and Taylor, was appointed presiding Elder. Sunday services were held in Achtelstetter's Restaurant building on Broad street, in rooms above the dining room. There were about 15 members of the Church at that time in this area.

A little later a few New Jersey families joined the church and a small group of converts from Holland came to America and added to the branch. In 1928 it moved to Masonic Hall, at Orange and Sixth streets, Newark. The membership reached about 200 that year. Midweek services were held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark.

In 1932 a small tract of land and a recreational club house at 40 Whittlesey avenue, West Orange, were purchased and remodeled to use as a little chapel. Here the membership grew to about 450. Growth would have been much greater, except that many of the converts moved west to join the main body of the church in Utah and surrounding states. This little chapel drew members from as far away as New Brunswick, Mendham and Leonia, as well as from the Oranges, Newark and Elizabeth.

In 1953 the Whittlesey avenue tract was purchased by the State to make room for the Garden State Parkway, and the building on it was torn down. A seven-acre tract of land was then purchased on White Oak Ridge road, Short Hills. Plans were drawn for the present building to cost \$300,000. Pending its construction the Congregation met in the Florence Guadineer Junior High School in Springfield.

The ground breaking ceremony was held in October, 1953. Chairman Hill of the Millburn Township Committee welcomed the newcomers to Short Hills and a number of other community leaders attended and extended their goodwill and best wishes. The excavation, concrete foundations, and masonry work, also the heating and plumbing facilities were contracted, but the remainder was built by the voluntary labor of over a hundred doctors, lawyers, engineers, scientists and craftsmen of the Mormon faith, and by a few of their friends who were not members. As of March 1, 1956, the building was completed in all but a few minor details, and was completely paid for. No Mormon chapel is ever dedicated until it is clear of all forms of debt.

The Church was dedicated on September 16, 1956, with Secretary of Agriculture. Ezra Benson, a member of President Eisenhower's Cabinet, delivering the dedicatory address.

The first regular meeting in the new building was held in July, 1955. The Junior Sunday School facilities were then unfinished, but were soon made available. They are a miniature replica, in most respects, of the main chapel. The latter

accommodates about 300 persons. It has choir spaces for a choir of 60 members. None of the officers or leaders of the Church receive any salary or pay of any kind. The members perform all the functions and duties such as preaching the sermons, leading the singing, playing the organ, etc.

The present leader is Bishop E. M. Thomas (as of 1957), a lawyer with Esso. Other leaders are professional men employed in numerous well known institutions, throughout this area. As of 1956 the membership in the Short Hills Ward was about 600. They are from Essex, Union, and Morris Counties. Non-members are permitted to attend services at any time, a fact which Bishop Thomas says, is contrary to the usual belief. Bishop Robert C. Fletcher is leader (1976).

*History of the Community Congregational Church, Short Hills (Prepared by Rev. H. Otheman Smith, D.D., Minister)*

The Community Congregational Church in Short Hills has had a brief but a full and eventful existence. Sponsored by the Middle Atlantic Conference and the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches, it was given a comity assignment by the New Jersey Council of Churches after a survey had revealed that a new church was needed and wanted in this community. The first service was held on Sunday, September 27, 1953, and the Church School was started the following Sunday. The congregation met in the Racquets Club for its Sunday services from September 27, 1953, through April 11, 1954. On Easter Sunday, April 18, 1954, services were held in the Short Hills School on Hobart avenue where they continued through March 24, 1957. On March 31, 1957, the congregation moved into its own building at the corner of Parsonage Hill road and Hartshorn drive.

The congregation was formally organized as a church with 126 charter members, and received into the fellowship of Congregational Christian Churches on December 6, 1953. This service was held at the Short Hills Country Day School.

On November 10, 1954, the Reverend H. Otheman Smith, D.D., who had brought the first congregation together and had served as Pastor under the employ of the Middle Atlantic Conference since the first service, was unanimously called by the church to be its Minister. On March 13, 1955, he was formally installed, with Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York preaching the installation sermon.

In the first year, a parsonage located at 29 Hobart avenue was purchased as a home for the Minister and as a place where activities of the church could be held. Also a five-acre tract of land at the corner of Parsonage Hill road and Hartshorn drive was secured for the site of the future church building. In

November, 1954, less than a year after its organization, the church conducted a campaign among its members for funds for the erection of its building. On June 5 of the following year, groundbreaking ceremonies were held, and a beautiful colonial building representing an investment of some half a million dollars has been completed. A parking space for 250 cars has been provided in the rear of the building.

In the four years since its organization this church has grown to over 800 members, and its Church School now numbers over 400 including an active Women's Guild of 250, a young married group of 80, and junior and senior high school organizations of some 90 young people. This past year a full scouting program for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers was inaugurated. This Fall a men's organization called, "The League of Congregational Men," was formed with John C. Hover as president, Mrs. Otho A. Shipley, Jr. is President of the Women's Guild.

On October 14, 1956, the cornerstone was laid, at which Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer, the then acting Minister and Executive Secretary of the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches was the speaker. The dedication services were held from

October 27, 1957, through November 3, 1957. The dedication of occurred the church occurred on October 27 at 4:30 p.m. Dr. Truman Douglas, Executive Secretary of the Home Mission Board was the preacher. On October 30 there was a church dinner at which the speaker was Dr. Halford E. Luccock of Yale Divinity School, and on November 3 at 11 a.m. the service of the dedication of the memorial was held with Dr. H. Otheman Smith officiating.

The present officers of the Church are: Church Chairman, Hugh L. Macmillan, Jr., Clerk, Gerald G. Harrison; Treasurer, Paul A. Seibold; Auditor, Herbert C. Englert, Alfred H. Hauser is Chairman of the Church Building Council and William G. Lupton, Jr. is Chairman of the Building Fund Raising Committee.

There are nine members of the Board of Trustees?F. Willard Griffith, Chairman, Albert J. Williams, Secretary, Walter Beinecke, Jrs., Allan D. Forbes, George M. Dean, Alfred H. Hauser, William G. Lupton, Jr., Hobart C. Ramsey and Charles W. Scott. The Council of Elders consists of Rev. H. Otheman Smith, D.D., Chairman, Dr. Lawrence E. Ulvestad, Clerk and George D. Atwood, Elder-at-Large. William E. Repke is Chairman of the Deacons, and John E. Schmitt is Secretary; Mrs. Marshall L. Posey is Chairman of the Deaconesses, Mrs. Kenneth G. Engler is Vice Chairman, and Mrs. Douglas H. Springer is Secretary. Rev. Kenyon Wildrick is 1976 Chairman (in place of Rev. H. Otheman Smith, D.D.).

*Temple B'nai Jeshurun*

In 1848, 12 German emigrants arrived in Newark from war-ravaged Germany, and on August 20, 1848, they founded a House of Worship which they called "B'nai Jeshurun"?Children of the Upright.

Renting an upstairs room on Halsey Street, Newark, (then Harrison Street), they worshipped there until 1858 when they had amassed sufficient funds to build a small temple at Washington and William Streets.

Rabbi Joseph Leucht was called and ministered to the Temple until 1905 when Rabbi Solomon Foster succeeded him. In 1915 a fine new Temple was built on High Street at Waverly Avenue, Newark.

Rabbi Foster served the Community and Temple for 40 years when he became Rabbi Emeritus and was succeeded by Rabbi David H. Wice. Rabbi Wice was succeeded five years later by Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik who still serves B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills, and Rabbi Foster continues there as Rabbi Emeritus.

As the Jewish community moved to the suburbs the Temple followed and in 1950 built in South orange. A decade later, B'nai Jeshurun congregation completed its new Temple on South Orange Avenue, Short Hills, to serve the new era.

The Short Hills Temple has flexible seating arrangements to enable it to accommodate 350 to 2700 people. In establishing its Temple here the Congregation hoped to provide a cultural center for people of all faiths. Architecturally, B'nai Jeshurun is a handsome example of modern religious edifices.

Since its establishment in Short Hills the Temple has presented programs in Music, Drama, Literature, Science, Modern Dance, and other cultural forms, bringing here distinguished representatives in many fields. Most programs are open to the public.

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The foregoing are the histories of the churches which became permanent institutions in Millburn Township. A few other attempts were made at establishing churches or Sunday schools here, but they were either abandoned or absorbed into the larger religious groups.

A Congregational Church of Short Hills met for a few months in the Music Hall in the 1880's and during the same period a Union Sabbath School met in the public school on Old Short Hills road, at the head of Parsonage Hill road.

Another Union Sunday School met in the Music Hall at various times with the Rev. A. B. Rich, D.D., of the Crescent, acting as its Superintendent.

On a map of 1872, a lot on Taylor street between Main St. and Spring street, is shown, containing a building marked, "M. E. Church." This may have been the same building which several years later housed a Negro church rival to the other A.M.E. Church. No permanent Methodist Church was established here, and the Springfield Methodist Church since its founding in 1827 has served Millburn people of that denomination. However, Millburn citizens had a part in establishing it. The first meeting to consider its founding was held in the home of Philemon Dickinson in the old stone house on Millburn avenue, which played a part in the Vauxhall road battle on June 23, 1780, but was torn down many years ago. Application was made to the Springfield Academy to meet there, but permission was refused, after which the congregation met in a local grist mill sitting, it is said, "on sacks of grain and bales of hay."

Millburn seems always to have been a church-going community, and its churches have grown strong and influential with the years. Many had humble beginnings and experienced hard struggles for existence, but strengthened by those early trials they have reached a vigorous maturity.

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## CHAPTER XVIII. GROWING UP

A long road winds through the years between the establishment of the Wyoming and Short Hills Developments and the end of the first decade of the 20th century. Viewing it through the eyes of today, conditioned to the frenzies and uncertainties of the times, that road seems like a quiet country lane; peaceful, rather quaint, even dull at times. But roads mean people, and the relationship of the people to the times in which they live is just as meaningful for themselves and for the future which they are influencing, no matter how unwittingly, whether those times are idyllic or frantic.

And so the people of Millburn were busy during these years setting out their milestones along their road. Probably only a few far-sighted ones could read the writing on the stones, and glimpse the long turn which the road ahead would take; a turning which would lead their chosen community out of the old and into the new way of life.

Millburn Township did not emerge into the 20th century from a long period of somnolence. Although its population was small, it was kept from insularity during the last half of the 19th century by the many distinctions between it and many other small towns of New Jersey. First of all, established in Millburn Village was a thriving manufacturing center, run by men with business contacts stretching across the nation. Millburn was located on the main line of an important railroad, so that the life of the big cities could be, and was, enjoyed by many with little effort. In Mr. Hartshorn's Short Hills Development lived a wealthy and sophisticated society whose manners and ways were certain to have influence on the rest of the town; in the Wyoming section were a group of alert and cultured people. Citizens like Israel D. Condit, Dr. Edward Whittingham, Albert D. Traphagen, James R. Pitcher, Edward S. Renwick, and Stewart Hartshorn, all actively engaged in the life of the community, were men who were part of the main stream of American life, so that Millburn left the "country bumpkin" stage early in its existence, and was receptive to changes that the last quarter of the 19th century were bringing.

A paragraph should be included here to speak of Edward Sabine Renwick, one of Millburn's great men. We have mentioned his father, James Renwick, in the chapter on the coming of the railroad. His mother was a member of the Brevoort family of New York City. Edward was born in 1823 in the oldest portion of Columbia College on Barclay street, New York City, where his father was a professor. Edward, who grew up to be a mechanical engineer, patent expert, inventor, and widely known philanthropist, worked abroad in Wales and England and then in Washington, D.C., where he was associated with Peter H. Watson, later Assistant Secretary of War in Lincoln's cabinet. He came to live permanently in Millburn in 1867, building a large Victorian



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mansion on Old Short Hills road. His home, shorn of its turrets, iron grillwork, and other decorative features, is still standing at 140 Old Short Hills Road, and is owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Poeschel. During his life in Millburn he formulated many of his 25 inventions, including a chicken brooder and incubator which revolutionized the poultry industry, and a reaping and binding machine, the principle of which is still in use. One of his greatest achievements was the designing and supervising, with his brother Henry, of a repairing of a break 82 feet long and 10 feet wide in the bilge of the "Great Eastern," the famous iron steamboat. The repair was made while the steamboat was afloat, a feat deemed impossible by the experts.

On coming to Millburn, Mr. Renwick entered into its life thoroughly. He served as Chairman of the Millburn Township Committee, and also as an Essex County Freeholder. He was one of the founding members of St. Stephen's Church and was often its benefactor. He died at his home here in 1912, at the age of 90 years. His daughter, Elizabeth, married Walton C. Whittingham son of Dr. Edward Whittingham.

In reading through the newspapers of the times it becomes evident that the people of Millburn were beginning to see themselves as a whole unit. For several years after the establishment of Millburn as a Township, it still remained divided into its separate sections, each with its own problems and each solving them in a different way. Gradually, the advantage of a common solution were becoming recognized.

Police and fire protection of all were being talked about; good roads occupied an important place in people's minds; a town hall was discussed frequently and as frequently abandoned; education (as we have read in a previous chapter) was being given more consideration. The people established their churches here rather than journeying to many different places for their worship. The world was moving in with its new ideas, its problems, and questions.

The first attempt at police protection was the founding of the "Millburn Mutual Protection Society" incorporated in September, 1868 for "the suppression and punishment of vagrancy, theft, burglary, and other crimes in Millburn." Each member was pledged when called on by the captain of the society to come out and help enforce law and order.

Starting in 1892 and continuing until the Millburn Police Department was founded in 1907, peace officers were appointed by the Township Committee. Some of Millburn's oldest and best citizens served in that capacity, as it was considered an honor to be so appointed. Among those serving were John S. Taylor, John McCollum, W. R. Johnson, J. Mandeville, M. J. Whalen, R. Marshall, Julius Wittkop, James Splan, George McCollum, William G. Palmer, Thomas Hankins, John and Peter Flanagan, W. H. Barnard, Thomas Marshall, Fred Taylor, John and Peter Kearney, Richard Tichenor, Frank G. Stoeckel, J.



K. Trengrove, Henry Hankins Jr., Frank Bailey, William Spencer, H. Hackelton, John Whalen, Charles R. Fred, Harry Reeve, Frank Burbage, Fred Culbert, and Frank Dellas.

Robert S. Oliver was the first Chief of Police appointed in 1907 and W. G. Palmer and Thomas Hankins were the first patrolmen. Later John Wratchford and Hugh Fitzsimmons patrolled on horseback.

A bucket fire brigade was organized on April 21, 1876, by W. Rollinson Whittingham, J. M. Ayres, Robert S. Oliver, Julius Wittkop, W. E. Barnard, William Holme, Theodore Marshall, G. L. Barnard, John Ward, and F. M. Marshall. Some of these names may be found among the list of peace officers also.

The Wyoming and Short Hills sections had similar companies, and all were equipped with hose reels and hoses. The Short Hills fire alarm was first sounded from Christ Church, but in 1895 an alarm system with batteries was installed in the Music Hall, connected to each house by a line system, with call boxes in the houses and on the streets.

As fire equipment increased, horses instead of men were used to pull it. The horses were owned by volunteers who on the sounding of the alarm would race their horses to the place where the apparatus was stored. The first ones to reach there would be given the job and receive a small remuneration.

All companies were finally united in 1912 under the Township Committee and became the Millburn Fire Department. Thomas A. Douglas was chief at that time.

The necessity for good roads became an important issue, with the newspapers leading the fight. The Millburn budget of September 15, 1886, demanded that the Essex County Road Board do something about Millburn avenue (then referred to as the "Telford" road because of its Telfordized surface). It said that the many bridges were hazardous; in two instances the approaches were a sudden sharp descent, endangering the lives of horses and drivers. The News Item throughout its early days hammered on the subject, calling constant attention to the thick mud, ruts, and rolling stones. An ordinance was passed in April, 1888, requiring the Township Committee overseer to cause stones, sticks, broken glass, tinware, wooden or iron hoops, and any other rubbish whatsoever to be removed from the road beds on the first Monday of each month. The News Item of June, 1889, called attention to the ordinance saying that the rolling stones and ruts of last year were still there.

However, the Township's appropriations for roads were high in proportion to the receipts. Figures chosen at random from Township reports show in 1879,

for instance, \$1,923.84 spent on roads out of \$5,944.40 receipts; 1891, \$5,462.38 spent, receipts \$16,086.21. The report of 1890 tops them all, however. The amount spent for roads, sidewalks, etc. in 1889 totalled \$7,531.26, while receipts amounted to \$15,683.00. This high figure becomes understandable, however, when one reads of the record flood of July 1889. Following a period of unprecedented rain, the Rahway River flooded and caused the Lighthipe dam at Millburn Center to break and the downtown streets to be destroyed. Elsewhere in Millburn the storm turned the highways into raging rivers, overflowed lawns and flooded cellars, and transformed sidewalks into rushing gullies of water. The flood drowned the coal sheds on Main Street near the railroad, and at Taylor Road the water lifted off the bridge and threw it with other debris against the railroad culvert, causing a pond 10 to 15 feet deep to be formed against the embankment.

The Township Report for the year 1890 contained a statement that the great storm of July 30, 1889, had damaged the roads of the Township beyond the means at the disposal of the Committee to repair, and accordingly, as provided by law under such a state of affairs, they had called out the inhabitants of the Township to work and repair the roads, and, therefore, all roads were in time made passable. A suit was instituted against Mr. Lighthipe for the damage sustained by the Township.

The great flooding of the Rahway River that year also caused a separate paragraph concerning it to be inserted in the New Jersey State Geological Report for 1890. Water, the report stated, remained at flood level for 14 days, thus establishing a record. That flood and other damaging, but smaller ones, caused a growing demand on the part of the public for the drainage of the millponds, and as steam power gradually replaced water power most of them disappeared.

Agitation for and against the building of a town hall ran high for many years. In 1888 suggestions for the need of a town hall were considered. The Township Committee advanced several good arguments for its erection: one, it would be a place for the consideration of public affairs; two, a place to keep the public records; three, a place to preserve objects of historical interest; and four, it would foster home interest and pride. A letter to the editor of The News Item signed "Common Sense" made short work of these arguments.

"One," Common Sense asked, "what affairs? The admission of Utah, or the Fishery Treaties? Two, are we to build a combustible hall costing \$10,000 to keep town records which can be kept just as well in one fireproof safe, in some place rented for \$50.00 a year? Three, who has any articles of local and historic interest relating to Millburn? It hasn't acquired much antiquity yet!; four the idea of fostering pride is just one of those 'Fourth of July' ideas in which things are mixed, leaving nothingness..." The writer concluded that Millburn did not need a town hall, but needed good roads. He was in favor of a large annual

tax for building stone-bottomed roads. "Common Sense" effectively put the quietus on the town hall idea for some time, it would seem.

However, wiser counsel eventually prevailed, and about 1891 a lot was purchased for \$1,000; and in 1895 the old Washington School was moved across the street to that lot on Millburn avenue, the present site of the Town Hall; and the school was remodeled to serve the Township until 1912. The old brick jail which stood at the west end of Church Street had been sold and torn down in 1886. The newspapers report of its sale said that "it had been erected several years prior to the accommodation of tramps ..." "Its going" continued the story, "leaves Millburn with not even a town hall for the accommodation of transient visitors. Perhaps the 'Bastile' at Summit could be borrowed!" For many years regular jail sentences were served in Newark.

While these affairs of state were occupying some part of the average citizen's time, he was at the same time taking part in many other activities, and broadening his social life.

On July 4, 1876, the inhabitants of Millburn took part in the celebration of the first Centennial of Independence, which was held in Springfield. Among other entries in the big parade was Roger Marshall's large wagon, filled with Millburn citizens and drawn by six horses.

On March 20, 1887, a party was held at the Music Hall to celebrate Miss Cora Hartshorn's 13th birthday. The Royal Marinettes "provoked storms of applause," and supper was served by New York caterers.

On August 5, 1886, several hundred people attended an excursion to Manhattan Beach under the auspices of St. Stephen's Church. After a train ride to Hoboken they boarded the steamer "Eliza Hancock". One of the highlights of the trip was the passing of Liberty Island, where Bartholdi's Statute of Liberty was being prepared for its unveiling in September.

The great travelling free ice water fountain of The Moderation Society, of which S. Lyons of Millburn was an officer, dispensed 50,000 free drinks of ice water at a Labor Day Rally in Newark attended by many Millburn citizens.

The New Jersey Horticultural Society was organized with James R. Uitcher of Short Hills as its first president.

Special delivery service was extended to Millburn on October 1, 1886.

The residents of Short Hills made up a purse to pay for improving the road leading to Summit by way of Hobart's Bridge. A wildcat annoyed people on Summit mountain; a bear frightened people on Balthur Roll's hill, and a 17-

pound wildcat was killed on Millburn Mountain (now part of the Reservation) by William Stoeckle and Herb Lighthipe. William Stoeckle was our Police Chief Stoeckle's uncle.

A muskrat supper was enjoyed at Lewis Smith's Halfway House on Millburn avenue at the Maplewood line. The article says that at the appointed time "the rats were brought in done up in the first class Style for which Smith's is famous."

A crowd gathered to watch Mr. Hartshorn's yoke of oxen being shod at Holme's blacksmith shop.

"Apron and Necktie" socials were the fad of the moment. The idea was that homemade aprons and neckties were placed in a receptacle. The young men and women then pulled them out, and were paired off according to the matching of the materials in their ties and aprons.

Dancing parties began to be popular, and it was reported in the papers that dancing lasted until 4:30 a.m. The mood which ushered in the "Gay Nineties" was certainly becoming manifest.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" was a frequent and popular play at the Music Hall. One advertisement promised "a laugh for every minute, smiles and tears blended together; two funny mirth provoking Topsy's; two comical ludicrous musical marks." An evening's entertainment at the Music Hall on September 8, 1886, also included a demonstration of "Edison's remarkable parlor electric light," a novel and ingenious device providing a moment's fun and entertainment; whether it was considered of any practical worth was not disclosed.

Accidents involving horses and wagons occurred frequently in Millburn, and sometimes with fatal results. People were kicked by horses, dragged by horses, and struck down by horses and wagons, besides the terror and injury inflicted by runaway horses and breaking shafts.

The number of young people who died of tuberculosis, or "consumption" as it was then called, seems today to be appalling. At least one obituary a week in the Millburn paper covered the death of some citizen's young son or daughter who had died of the disease, and the obituaries often carried a heartbreaking indication of others in the family who had passed away with the same affliction. However, Millburn prided itself on being a healthy town. In reporting the census figure in the year 1885, the population was given as 2,023, and it was stated that as an indication of the health of the community, five citizens were over 90 years old, 5 over 80, and 70 over 70 years.

The newspapers were much more candid then, or the libel laws were not

strictly interpreted, for many a family quarrel was aired in the press. Stories of wifebeaters, drunken husbands, incorrigible children were duly reported with names, addresses, and dates. Such a news item in January, 1886, began the headline, "Wife beater jugged", and described how Bernard F ? of Millburn was sentenced by Judge McChesney to the jail in Newark. The paper advocated the reestablishment of the whipping post to take care of such offenders.

Miner's Theatre in Newark was the nearest legitimate theatre, and the great actors and actresses of the period, such as Edward Southern and Julia Marlowe, performed there weekly, with Millburn residents travelling there by train frequently to enjoy the performances. The local paper carried regular articles on the best in literary entertainment, and advertisements for the best sellers, and the contents of such highclass magazines as "Harper's" were recorded.

The blizzard of 1888 seems to have caused the same confusion and trouble here as elsewhere, but the milk did come through, as attested by a letter to The Item purportedly written by four babies, Gladys Russell, Harold Tinker, Royal Root, and Winthrop Horton, thanking the milkman, John Carrigg, for struggling through the big snow drifts to bring them their milk.

The cattle on the "Jersey Cattle Farm" of F. C. Parley in the Parley Road-Woodcrest Avenue area were consistent prize winners at the Trenton, Waverly and other annual State Fairs.

A robbery at the home of Isaac B. Marsh of Church Street left that man without his Sunday dinner. It was reported that one-half bushel of boiled beans, 1 peck baked apples, and 12 pounds of salt pork were among other items stolen. The food was said to have been Mr. Marsh's dinner, but the explanation was given that Mr. Marsh was a large man, and the dinner, in his opinion, was taken by another man of his size.

In 1886 the Labor candidate for Congress received in Millburn the highest number of votes, 155; the Prohibition candidate the least?31 votes.

Although Prohibition candidates were not popular in Millburn, the town was not quite as soaked in alcohol as rumor sometimes pictures it. The hatters, it is true, drank quantities of beer partly, at least, because of their working conditions. Even today in hat factories a daily allotment of beer is part of the hatter's prerequisites. In those days the occupational hazards of the industry were tremendous. In forming the felt for hats, one of the great menaces to health was the inhalation of fur dust and the drinking of beer was thought to counteract this hazard. In the sizing process, the steam impregnated with the vitriol rose in clouds around the worker so thickly that, it is said, one man could not see the man working next to him. In the first step of felt making, mercuric

nitrate was brushed on the rabbit pelt, and many workers developed an occupational disease known as "hatter's shakes" from absorbing the poisonous mercuric salts through their skin. In fact, another reason for the disappearance of the hat mills from Millburn was the passing of stringent health laws with which the local industries were unable to comply. However, at no time did the number of saloons reach the figure of 30 set by a young man writing a thesis in 1935 about Industrial Millburn. That figure was undoubtedly based on hearsay as the only authority he gave was the recollection of an old resident.

In the old town directories, one of the earliest of which was "Moffatt's" of 1890, seven taverns are listed. They are James Culbert's, foot of Elm Street (now Essex Street); the Half Way House of J. Wittkop at the South Orange (now Maplewood) line; Dora Kellar, Main near Ocean; Bridget Maloney, Main and Mechanic streets; John McCoy, Main at the corner of Elm; Hugh G. Oliver, Main near Depot; and Martin V. Sylvan, Church near Spring street. These are classified as "saloons." In addition, liquor could be purchased at the hotels?the Essex on Morris turnpike near Canoe Brook road, the Farmers' on main street, and Smith's Millburn Hotel, corner of Millburn avenue and Main street. The Township Annual Report of 1892 noted receipts for \$1,000 in liquor licenses. This would indicate ten places, as the fee was \$100.00 each.

The ten licenses rose to 14 in 1898, but the amount paid for preserving the peace was only \$41.32 that year, so that no rise in crime seems to have followed. The peak was reached in 1904 when 17 licenses were granted, but these now included the Canoe Brook Country Club, the new hotel of the Wittkop Brothers in the Condit home, and Gentzel's store, which carried what we would not call package goods. In June, 1903, the Township Committee had passed a resolution that inasmuch as 15 places were licensed, the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas was requested to withhold in the future the granting of licenses for any new places in the Township. After 1904, probably as a result of this action, the number diminished to 16, then to 13 in 1907, to 12 in 1908, and finally in 1910 to a stable 10. In September, 1957, the number was reduced to 9, which includes clubs and package goods stores.

In the last years of the 19th century many newspapers came into existence but most passed away after a short life. They were The Arrow published about 1882; The Millburn Bulletin in 1883; The Plank Walk in 1884; the Millburn Budget 1886; the Millburn Review, which is listed in Moffatt's Directory of 1890 as being published on Saturday mornings by Benjamin Goodkind on Millburn avenue near Main Street. It was eventually, it is said, absorbed by the East Orange Record. Finally came one paper which lived. The News Item, established in 1888, which became the Short Hills News in 1889, and later The Millburn and Short Hills Item, which celebrated its semicentennial in 1938. Unfortunately, no copies of the Bulletin or Review have been located to date, and only their names remain to us.

The Annual Report of the Township, which was printed in bound form beginning in 1874 must have been read avidly by the citizens. It listed the names of all who had not paid taxes for the past and current years, the names of the paupers supported by the town, inventory of stocks and crops at the Poor Farm and all sorts of small items of receipt and disbursement. No amount was too small to be recorded, and no man's name was withheld.

The Town Report of 1909, publication of which was delayed until March 1910, must have provided even more subject for town gossip. An audit of tax records showed that no tax record had been kept for 1906 and prior years under examination, and only very indifferent records had been kept for the 1907-1909 period; that no record had been kept of taxes remitted by the County Board or the Township Committee, and of various properties which should have been sold for unpaid taxes. Also on the books were many items of taxes unpaid which the Committee had good reason to believe had been paid, and it became necessary to send out a circular asking for information as to taxes paid. The report did not indicate whether the Collector was dishonest or inefficient, but he was removed and a new Collector appointed. As a result of the situation a new system was established for the Collector, and \$15,000 of allegedly unpaid taxes were cancelled on the books on proof of payment. An official tax map was prepared and approved, and strict enforcement of the duty of tax collection was demanded by the Township Committee.

The Township suffered other growing pains, and learning to live together as one united municipal body did not come any more naturally and easily to Millburn than to most other communities. The Town Poor Farm, acquired in 1879 from the Denman Estate on White Oak Ridge Road, was a constant bone of contention. However, the 69 acres acquired for this purpose at a cost of \$2,500 plus \$102.37 counsel fees, was one of the best investments made as we view it in 1957, for on this property now is located the beautiful White Oak Ridge Park, dedicated in May, 1957, during the celebration of Millburn's Centennial. It has become of inestimable value to the Township as a breathing space amid the encroaching developments, besides of course, its high land value.

However, when it was acquired the complaints were loud and bitter. The newspapers insisted that money was being spent to keep tramps. More than one investigation into its operation were demanded, and every penny paid to the Overseer, Caleb VanWert, was scrutinized and criticized. The Overseer seems to have been constantly at odds with the officials, which was undoubtedly caused by the unpopularity of his office rather than the man himself.

In 1884 occurred one of those cases which sets a whole town agog, with factions lining up behind the principals involved according to their sympathies,

and the State newspapers joining in the controversy. This was the case of Millburn vs. the Widow Mason. On one side was Justice of the Peace C. C. Morrow and the Overseer of the Poor, VanWert; on the other, was the said Mrs. Mason, the newspaper, (then "The Plank Walk") the Short Hills Ladies Aid Society, and a good part of the population. In the fall of 1883 Mrs. Mason had moved to Millburn from Union and settled in a cottage belonging to William Seaver in the woods near Highland avenue. She had a ten-year old boy, a sick husband, and no money except the income she received from the sale of eggs and chickens. In December her husband died and she had great difficulty in arranging his burial. In fact the body remained in the house for several days, but finally she seems to have managed to find the funds. Her plight was brought to the attention of the Overseer, who attempted to have her declared a pauper so that she could be removed to Union Township. Under a law passed in 1874 (General Statutes 2, Sec. 6, 7, p. 2503) any person moving from one township to another was required to obtain a certificate from the Overseer of the Poor of his former place of abode to the Overseer of the Poor of his new home that he was not a public charge. However, if he did become a charge by "sickness or otherwise", the Overseer could, after certain legal steps, return the pauper to his former place of residence.

According to Mrs. Mason's version of the story appearing in the Plank Walk of April 22, 1884, she and her boy were living in the direst poverty, but never accepted aid. However, on getting behind in her rent payments, her landlord succeeded in evicting her, and she moved to a house owned by John Woodruff near Millburn center. The Overseer went ahead with his action, however, and on March 26th obtained an order to remove her to Union County. The Plank Walk says that on the very day that she was dragged into Court her boy was in Short Hills with nine dozen eggs to sell.

Feeling ran so high that Justice Morrow aired his side of the case in the Newark Advertiser of April 14th. Morrow's story was that the Masons were living in a hut not fit to shelter a human being and the monthly rent of \$5.00 a month was being paid by the Short Hills Ladies Aid; that she was almost blind, and that her chickens weren't laying because of the cold. Morrow says that the Constable, armed with the warrant to remove her, went to her house, found the door bolted, but forced it open, AND WITH GREATEST GENTLENESS, took her into his carriage and brought her before Justice Morrow who ordered her removed to Union. The Short Hills newspaper thereupon duly reported Mrs. Mason's version of the story which was that two men came to her house in a hack; broke in the door, dragged her out and laid her flat on the ground and held her down while they turned the hack around. Then they dragged her into it, left her house door open, and brought her before Justices Morrow and Simpson who declared her to be a pauper and ordered her returned to Union Township. Relatives from Jersey City came and took her and her son away, but the Constable removed three cart loads of furniture, clothing, and provisions, and about 60 hens and chickens which, according to the



newspapers, "he dumped into Union County."

The paper concludes with the statement that when the zeal of a Justice and Poormaster are carried to the extent of evicting an aged woman for fear she may at some future time become a charge on the Township then it is indeed time for the Justice to rise and explain. Millburn Township evidently became involved in a law suit growing out of the eviction, but whether the case came to judgement or not can not now be ascertained. In the Township Report of 1885, however, a total of \$103.87 was reported as expenditures in the Mason case which sum included counsel fees.

Thus ended ignominiously for all, Millburn's one attempt at highhanded justice, and after that Millburn seems to have accepted its few paupers and supported them grudgingly, but righteously. One wishes, however, that some report were now available as to the reaction in Union County when three cart loads of belongings plus 60 hens and chickens were unceremoniously dumped over its boundary line.

Outdoor sports began to occupy more place in people's lives. Fishing had always been popular in the ponds and rivers, and one reads of excellent cat fishing in the Rahway River, pickerel fishing in Baldwin's pond, a 6-3/4 pound eel caught in the Station pond, and bass in Campbell's and Parkhurst's ponds. Rifle shoots were held frequently, and the newspaper reported that five English snipe were bagged on the meadows.

Running matches were held on Millburn Avenue, and in one 200 yard match on September 8, 1886, Ed Stoeckle came in first, C. McCollum second, S. Douglass third, and F. Terlinde, fourth. Prizes were donated by Charles Smith. Stoeckle won by a yard.

Baseball grew in popularity and local teams were organized; one known as the Wyoming Baseball Club, in 1886; also in 1886, the Never Sweats, sometimes called the Never Wets, which was a forerunner of the Little League, its membership being limited to boys under 14. Samuel Culbert was captain. The Short Hills Baseball Club was organized in 1889 with one Rose as captain. The 20.

newspapers began to carry news of national teams. On June 9, 1884, the Bostons were ahead in the National League on games won, and Providence had lost one game. New York was in third place, Chicago in fourth, and Detroit and Philadelphia pressed for last place. In the Eastern League (there was no American), Wilmington was ahead and Trenton was in second place.

The first reports of bicycle races began to appear in the papers, in 1886, and on August 18th a ten-mile race on Millburn avenue between Irvington and

Millburn was reported. However, the official annual national race for which Millburn became famous was first run on Decoration Day in 1889, although two other 25-mile races were held before that date. The race started at the double woods at Prospect street and Springfield avenue, Maplewood, going first to Irvington, then back to Millburn, back to Irvington, again to Millburn, once more to Irvington, and then back to Prospect street. Competitors came from all over the country to compete and the spectators also represented many states. Competition for the many prizes was keen, and each racer had his vociferous partisans. Both high wheels and the then new "safety" bicycle, which is practically the same wheel we use today, participated. These races were an eagerly Awaited event for over 20 years. They were abandoned about 1910 when interest in automobiles superseded bicycles.

The Short Hills Club, first called the Short Hills Athletic Club, came into existence about 1875 as an athletic club, and under its auspices track meets were held on Brookside drive, where the first 200-yard straightaway in the country was built near Campbell's pond. Later a member Felix C. Chazournes, who lived near the present Badenhausen home, permitted the Club to build a quarter mile track and grand stand on his farm. The Club also built grass tennis courts, an archery range, and conducted live pigeon shoots. Two men held running records; one was William C. Wilmer holding a world record and two American records in the sprints, and his cousin, Charles deRonge who held a distance record. Later, the Club established headquarters in Mr. Hartshorn's Music Hall, from which, after many vicissitudes, it moved to its present location in 1928.

As more men began commuting to business in New York train service began to improve, and attention was drawn to the condition of the railroad stations. The first Millburn depot was burned in 1874, and thereafter a building which had been built by Jonathan Parkhurst in 1855 to shelter his paperstock and later acquired by the railroad as a freight station, was converted to a passenger station. The station had been permitted to fall into such a dilapidated state that in 1886 the Budget ran a campaign for its removal. It was considered to be only fit for a meeting place for bums, which, in truth, it had become, its walls reechoed with tobacco juice, its floor indescribably dirty, its exterior unpainted, rotting wood. It was washed once, however, in 1886, in anticipation of a visit by John L. Sullivan the reigning king of the boxing ring. It was not until 1907, however, that the present station and freight house were commenced. The original Short Hills station was built by Stewart Hartshorn in 1880 at his own expense, and a new station replaced the first one in 1907.

Commuter's lives were made happier in 1888 by the inauguration of commutation tickets, and in 1889 by the completion of the Hoboken passenger station, which is the same station used today. Whist games were enjoyed on the Short Hills to Hoboken run, and the opening of the 14th Street ferry service in May, 1886, provided a more convenient way to get to those New York

businesses which were beginning to move uptown to 14th Street. The ladies, it was said, found it most helpful in getting to the New York department stores on shopping trips.

In 1892, according to Moffatt's Essex County directory, Millburn had 50 streets, two of which, Renwick Place, running from off Short Hills road to Hobart avenue, and Quarry road, from Millburn avenue to the railroad, have now disappeared. As of this writing in 1957, Millburn Township has 230 streets, with more in process of construction.

In the process of growing up, Millburn was quick to make use of the new utilities which became available. A telephone board was installed in Campbell's drugstore, which was first located about where the moving picture theatre now stands; and the first operator, Miss Mary Walsh, was engaged to take care of the nine subscribers. Her night relief operator was James Hand, who, it is said, amused himself during the quiet hours of the night by playing phonograph records over the telephone for the pleasure of other night operators in nearby locations. Thus, young Mr. Hand may have been the first disk jockey. By 1898 the number of subscribers had increased to 14, but in 1905 business had so increased that a new switchboard requiring four operators was installed on the second floor over the drugstore. In 1957, the Drexel 6 and Drexel 9 exchanges served over 8,000 subscribers.

In the early days water had first been supplied by hand pumps or taken from springs, but Mr. Hartshorn's keen interest in good water provided Short Hills with an abundant supply which the Short Hills Water Co., Inc. sold to the Millburn section for many years. The Commonwealth Water Co. in 1927 took over the franchise. In September, 1890, the first hydrant was built in the Township, and ten more were added during the next ten years.

In 1880 gas lighting was installed in the Music Hall and in the 1890's the streets were lighted by gas. The first gas was evidently not satisfactory, because in 1893 the Township decided to return to the use of gasoline for street lighting because of the poor quality furnished by the Summit Gas Co. Later, gas for street lights was supplied from Newark until electric power was substituted.

Millburn had no electric light until after 1895 when the Millburn Electric Co. was organized by William Rollinson Whittingham and his brother, W. C. Whittingham. The first electricity was manufactured in their plant where the Mayflower Laundry now stands, but its building was later moved to property behind the Millburn Coal and Oil office. The Jersey Central took over the Millburn Electric Co. in 1925.

Trolley lines connected Millburn with cities all over New Jersey. At first people

had to go to Maplewood to board a trolley for Orange or Newark, but the Morris County Traction Co. later ran its cars to Millburn railroad station on Maine Street. On December 18, 1905, the first car ran to Summit. The Industrial Directory of New Jersey for 1906 stated that trolley lines from Millburn connect with the Oranges, Newark, Paterson, Passaic, Elizabeth, Jersey City, and all other large towns in the middle counties of the state.

A Board of Health was organized on March 31, 1887, with Richard Hopkins as president, J. M. Drake, secretary, and Felix McGee, health inspector. M. H. Schenck and Wellington Campbell made up the rest of the Board. The Board moved progressively with the times, keeping pace with new advancements in medicine and public health. Thus in 1910 milk inspections became important; housing conditions were looked into, and several "tenement" houses in the village were condemned as unfit for human occupation. Typhoid fever was a problem, but seems to have been fought efficiently, and a crusade against mosquitos was organized with all citizens being furnished with a formula for the fumigation of their cellars. Citizens' responsibility had come a long way from the time thirty years before when the burying of a dead horse had required the threat of drastic action by the Township officials.

Millburn had acquired a post office as the Millville section of Springfield in 1854, before the incorporation, with Albert A. Traphagen serving as first Postmaster. The site of the post office changed several times too, occupying various quarters on Millburn avenue, then on Main street and finally its present location, a government-owned building. Old Millburn names appear in the list of Postmasters, including Jotham Meeker in 1857, then Stephen A. Kitchel, Isaiah Smith, Clara M. Kitchel, Mary D. Kitchel, Peter C. McChesney, George S. James, Alexander J. R. Simpson, Robert S. Oliver, Caroline E. Condit, George C. Kessler, Edward T. Lonergan, William Doliver, William Dewey Hayes, Edward J. Lonergan, and the present postmistress, Helen C. Jacobus. The Short Hills Post Office was established in 1880, first in the railroad station, then on Hobart avenue, eventually in its present location on Chatham road. Louis C. Goodrich was the first Postmaster, followed by George C. Kessler, Albert A. Manda, James R. Pitcher, William H. Lushear, Edward J. Tidaback, and the present incumbent, Carlisle C. Cahill who has been Postmaster since 1930.

In these formative years, more than 1,000 acres of Millburn became a part of the great South Mountain Reservation. In its building, starting in 1895, old landmarks, such as Campbell's mill and home on Brookside drive, as well as other homes along Brookside drive and South Orange avenue disappeared, but their disappearance left Millburn with one of its most impressive and beautiful landmarks. This Park, under the control of the Essex County Park Commission, insures in perpetuity a natural area of mountain, valley, woods, and streams available to everyone at no cost.

Another step forward for the community was the organization of a bank in 1907. Heretofore all banking had to be done in orange or Newark, but on April 24th of that year, a group of businessmen met in Wittkop's Tavern to discuss the question of founding a bank here, and on May 4, 1907, the First National Bank of Millburn opened its doors with William Flemer as president, William McCullom, vice president, and John R. Bunnell, cashier. The new little bank, with an original capital of \$12,000, did amazingly well when one considers that within four months of its organization one of the great financial panics hit the country, with banks and brokerage firms all across the United States shutting their doors and plunging people everywhere into hardship and despair. But the Millburn Bank came out of the storm so well that by 1908 it had purchased land on the southeast corner of Millburn avenue and Main street from the Whittingham Estate for its own building which was completed in 1909. This building which was looked upon as a sky-scraper, also housed the Post Office, Campbell's drugstore, and the Telephone Exchange. In 1956 it moved into a new modern building at the corner of Millburn avenue and Essex streets, and was acquired by the National State Bank at its Millburn branch.

A new-found leisure began to be enjoyed in American life, and this trend found its expression in Millburn Township also, particularly among the more affluent members of society. Men began to turn to golf, a new sport which was being played in a few places across the country. The Canoe Brook Club was organized in 1901 and a nine-hole course laid out over the old Wallace farm. The farmhouse was remodeled for a clubhouse. This club was one of the pioneer clubs in the United States. The United States Golf Association had been organized only six years before, and the first golf club in the country, St. Andrews at Hastings-on-Hudson, was only ten years old. The Baltusrol Club was also an old club, but it did not attract too many men from the Township until the coming of the automobile made easy transportation to it possible. However, the Baltusrol was organized by Lewis Keller whose father had been one of the founders of the Short Hills Club.

At the present writing Millburn golfers have available another golf course?the East Orange?which was opened in July, 1926. This course is located on the East Orange watershed property in the White Oak Ridge section of Millburn, and many of its acres had been farm land of Millburn's pioneer families.

While few women accompanied their husbands to the links, others turned for recreation to gardening. The tending of a garden was no longer a chore to provide life's necessities, but became a creative act to produce color and beauty out of doors.

Nine ladies of Short Hills, ardent gardeners, who had formed the habit of visiting each other's gardens and discussing their problems together, founded in 1906 the Short Hills Garden Club. These ladies first called themselves "The Nine of Spades", and the object of their club was to "stimulate among its

members and in the community, a knowledge and appreciation of gardening and other horticultural activities." Mrs. Edward B. Renwick was elected the first president, Mrs. Charles Stout was secretary and the seven other members were Mrs. John A. Stewart, Mrs. Harold Hack, Mrs. William Meikleham, Mrs. Frazer Moffatt, Miss Josephine deRude, Mrs. Daniel Kingford and Mrs. George Campbell. This club, too, was one of the pioneer clubs of its kind in the country.

A few years later the Short Hills Garden Club became one of the founding members of the Garden Club of America, and became a charter member of the Garden Clubs of New Jersey in 1925.

The club has worked with the Township Committee to preserve many natural beauties of the community. A member, Mrs. William K. Wallbridge, was one of the members of the first Shade Tree Commission. The club organized the victory gardens during the wars and received from the government meritorious awards for achievement. It furnished outdoor plantings for base hospitals, and still provides flowers on occasion for the Veterans Hospital at Lyons, as well as flowers, dried arrangements and Christmas wreaths for the Millburn Public Library.

Also growing out of this early interest in gardening was the building by Miss Cora Hartshorn of her 17-acre Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary on Forest drive.

Of all the beautiful gardens created in Short Hills in the early part of the 20th century, only one remains?that of Mrs. William K. Wallbridge. Most of the others, notably those of Mrs. Moses Faitoute, Edward Pettigrew, Mrs. Fred Ryan, and others, are only memories today.

As of 1957, in addition to the Short Hills Garden Club, the Garden Club of Short Hills, the Rolling Hills Garden Club, and the Short Hills Farm and Garden Association have brought more women into active participation in civic conservation problems, the enchantment of the natural beauty of the Township, and personal recreational and aesthetic enjoyment of Nature.

Millburn was a community bursting with civic pride when it celebrated its semi-centennial on April 13, 1907. Its population had grown to over 3,000. The Newark News reported the population as 3,600, but this figure seems high, as the official census of 1905 gave it as 3,182. Its real estate was valued at \$2,122,925; its tax rate was \$2.19; its net bonded debt \$200,000. It had new railroad passenger and freight stations; a high school worth \$25,000 and two other good schools; seven churches, a bank was being talked about; several flourishing industries employing several hundred people were in operation, and all these progressive institutions flourished in a setting of natural beauty.

The main feature of the celebration was the parade, which started late because of the rain that fell that morning of April 13th, but the inclement weather did not cut one step from the line of march, which began at the Town Hall on Millburn avenue, then proceeded east to Main street, north to Hobart avenue; along Hobart avenue to Short Hills avenue; then to Morris avenue, Springfield; then along Morris Avenue and so back to the Town Hall, but hundreds of people marched every step of the way. one of the foot marchers in that parade was Edward F. Lonergan who, as Honorary grand marshal, led the Centennial Parade of 1957 in a limousine, it might be added.

The guests of honor of the semi-Centennial Celebration included Daniel S. Deen, who was a member of the Springfield Township Committee when Millburn broke away; John Meeker, Millburn's second Township clerk, Horace Park, first Tax Collector, and Harvey E. Smith, 92 years old, the oldest living resident, and one of the first constables. The dignitaries were dined at St. Stephen's parish house, and attended exercises in the Grammar School on Millburn avenue. Several floats depicting old schoolhouses, Indian villages, the Spirit of '76, etc. were entered in the parade. Later in the day, games and competitive tests by visiting firemen completed the celebration.

With its 50th birthday, Millburn had passed another milestone and entered upon a young adulthood, its feet well set on a path whose destination only a few could dimly perceive. Its industries were dwindling?the New Jersey Industrial Directory of 1909 listed only four. The Millburn Township Improvement Association still offered information on fine sites for factory purposes in the Industrial Directory, but more space was given to other attractions the Township offered to new comers?its firstclass railroad service, trolley lines, fine churches and schools, well paved streets, large stores, good mail service, firstclass sewer and water systems, fire protection, a building and loan society, a bank, and many opportunities for the enjoyment of social and business life.

These were surely the inducements for the establishment of suburban homes, rather than the hawking of wares for industrial buyers. Reading this ancient publicity today, it is simple to see in it prophetic signs of the kind of community which was about to emerge?a community possibly envisaged by the Parkhursts and Smiths, Parsils and Meekers, Taylors, Brants, and Baldwins who journeyed here so long ago to found a better place in which to live and raise their families. But it would take the aftermath of the first great war to bring about the complete fulfillment of that destiny.

## CHAPTER XIX. CHANGING TIMES

It is customary now to think of the days before the first of the great World Wars as a kind of pastoral symphony where simple people wandered in an unhurried, peaceful existence, untouched by any world except the few square miles around them which they called the home town. However, a reading of the newspapers of that day, which must be one of the principal sources of any history of those times, seems to indicate that that idea is not correct, and that the differences between the world of 45 years ago and the world now is only relative.

Unfortunately, all copies of the Millburn-Short Hills item for the early years of the 20th century were destroyed by fire, but the Newark Evening News, the Newark Sunday Call, and the Newark Evening Star (later, Newark Star Eagle), had a wide circulation in Millburn and all carried some Millburn Township news.

In 1912 man's inventions and discoveries had not yet progressed beyond his capacity to use them wisely, but he was striving vigorously to reach that goal. Without radio and television he was not instantaneously aware of the world's woes the minute they happened; atomic fission with its possibilities of good and evil existed only in the minds of some scientists, space travel was something to be found in the "Little Nemo" script of the comic sheets, and the potentialities of the airplane were still only dimly perceived.

However, We news coverage of the local papers was broad and world-wide in its scope, and from them one now gets the feeling that the young America was moving out of the tight little world in which it had once lived. The foment and excitement of a new, modern world comes through the headlines.

Pages of these papers were devoted to an exciting, recently perfected invention called the "Automobile," which was even then changing the face of every small town in the country. Columns were devoted to its operation, repair, where to go and how, and news of motorists who were making the first long trips. "Do-it-yourself" articles gave minute direction on how to adjust and repair engines. Other pages carried advertisements of new models, of which there were many, showrooms, parts suppliers, and service stations.

Millburn Township, lying in the path of many crossroads, was early influenced by this fascinating new method of traveling. Now, alongside of the trolley, with its pleasant clatter and warning bell, running down Main Street at seven or eight miles an hour, raced the motor car at unheard of speeds. New Jersey passed a law in 1912 limiting speed to 1 mile every 5 minutes in districts where houses were less than 100 feet apart.



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The Township fathers worried. In their annual report, issued early in 1912, they recommended that a steam roller and other road machines be purchased to scrape and oil the roads, as they said?"the combined traffic of horse drawn vehicles and automobiles had greatly deteriorated the macadam roads."

The problem they posed in their report was, "where could they find a binder which would accommodate automobiles, but would not be too slippery for horses?" Time, of course, was soon to dispose of that question as the horse became a museum piece, and Millburn's blacksmith shops, harness makers, livery stables, and stable suppliers one by one closed their doors forever. However, new businesses were replacing them. Soon Millburn had a taxicab run by Mr. Patrick Skelly, and its first garage and service station, operated by Julius Wittkop on Millburn avenue, where the Suburban Dress Shop is now located.

However, the trolley was not to be driven from the local scene for 15 or more years yet. It was not only an important means of transportation for shoppers and workers in and out of Millburn, but was a source of much fun, too. Trolley cars took the residents, as individuals, families, or in larger excursion groups to places as far away as Seidler's Beach, Sewaren, Boynton Beach, and even to Lake Hopatcong. of course, the small minority who owned automobiles went even farther across the rough roads of New Jersey, in the first of many Sunday jaunts away from home.

The "society" news in the papers reflects the change in the social pattern. People were spread out more, taking vacations away from home, visiting relatives in far-away places, or staying at cottages at the seashore. Boys were beginning to enjoy camping trips, too. One reads in August, 1912, that Earl Warner, Robert Marshall, Ray Oliver, and Winfield Griffiths went camping at Roe Pond; William Pittinger visited for two weeks in Nova Scotia; Ethen S. Bosworth visited Fitchburg, Massachusetts, and Fire Chief Thomas A. Douglas entertained his brother-in-law, William Stoeckle, at his cottage in Port Monmouth.

Social life at home more often than not centered around the family upright piano. The majority of the songs they sang were frankly sentimental, and among the favorites were, "The End of a Perfect Day," "Little Gray Home in the West," "My Rosary," "in the Good Old Summertime," "Love Me and the World is Mine," "Down by the Old Mill Stream," and "Mother Macree," to name only a few which were then in their heyday. Some songs reflected the new inventions; "He'd Have to Get Under," and "All Alone by the Telephone." But even in the songs a new sophistication was creeping in, and the ragtime rhythms of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" and "Everybody's Doin' It" startled with their offbeat accents.

Motion pictures as a source of public entertainment came to Millburn, too, and in its own nickleodeon on Millburn avenue where Marx's store is now located, the first flickering images of love and romance, Indians and cowboys, and other deathless heroes made their debut. Motion pictures were often the features of church and club socials. At St. Stephen's on Christmas afternoon in 1912 a party was held for the poor children of the town, and after the tree and presents, as a special treat, a moving picture was shown.

Millburn had its own baseball team, the Millburn A. C., which successfully challenged many neighboring teams. Interest in baseball was high, not only in the home team, but in the great professionals, and Ty Cobb and Walter Johnson were national heroes.

The Millburn bicycle races had been abandoned by 1910, but interest in bicycle racing was still keen with the interest focusing on the star riders of the new Velodrome in Vailsburg where Frank Kramer was everyone's favorite.

Interest in the theatre was tremendous. Most Millburn folks went to Newark for their entertainment where nine legitimate theatres offering fare from straight drama, through vaudeville, and burlesque, were located. In 1912 they laughed and cried over Eddie Foy and his seven laughing Foy kids in "Over the River," or William Farnum. in "The Littlest Rebel." The plays of Gilbert and Sullivan and Shakespeare were in many repertoires of the nearby playhouses, and audiences thrilled to the talents of Mrs. Fiske, Maude Adams, George Arliss, DeWolf Hopper, Marie Dressler, George M. Cohan, Anne Held, and many other theatrical greats.

About this time women's skirts moved up and from below the ankle bone almost to the shoe top, probably as another result of the automobile, as with the invention of the self-starter (1910) and gradual elimination of the difficult cranking job, women began to realize that they, too, could drive cars if their skirts were not so long. On the stage, skirts grew even shorter, leading Percy Hammond, an eminent dramatic critic of the day to write, reprovingly, "the human knee is a joint, and not an entertainment."

Most shopping expeditions took the ladies to the Township of Newark by trolley, although some of the more affluent journeyed by train to New York City. Cash was not too plentiful in 1912, but then one did not need so much. One reads advertisements in the Newark papers that year showing what seems now like unbelievable bargains. At L. S. Plaut's Beehive (now Kresge's) in Newark, cotton yard goods were on sale at 5-1/2 cents a yard, and boy's wash-trousers, 45 cents a pair. At Hahne's in the same month, ladies' gloves were advertized at 19 cents a pair, shoes at \$1.00, and washboards at 50 cents. Bamberger's offered neckties at 10 cents, and the latest novels, including "The Light that Lures," "House of Bondage," and "The Duke's Price" for 45 cents a copy. At Siegel Cooper's in New York, one could buy a brass bed for \$12.50

and a man's shirt for 39 cents.

At the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, lard cost 25 cents for 2 pounds, butter was 31 cents a pound, and bacon was 17 cents. A case of Ballantine's light export beer sold for \$1.00 and a barrel of flour was \$6.50.

Old timers in Millburn in 1938 say that life was very pleasant here in those days before the war; that everyone knew everyone else and they had happy times together. Much of their community social life was connected with their churches to which almost everyone belonged, and in the new fraternal order and lodges which were opening here.

However, the old population was changing, too. The predominantly English and Scotch stock of the 18th and early 19th centuries was being augmented by migration from all over Europe. The first Irish and Germans had arrived here soon after 1840, and then came in increasing numbers as time went on. After about 1880, people from Italy came, and later representatives of other countries found homes in Millburn Township, induced by the prospect of work in the mills and on the railroads.

The census figures of 1905 give the native born population at 2335 out of a total of 3182. The foreign born population was broken down into 86 English, 232 Irish, 103 Germans, 160 Italians, and all other countries, 266. A count a few years later shows the Italian population doubled, the people from Russia, Greece, and Poland with a scattering representation of other countries, becoming new citizens of pre-war Millburn Township.

In 1912, Millburn Township worried about juvenile delinquency, although it did not call it that, and passed a curfew law. Mrs. Harold A. Hack, head of the Neighborhood House, was principally responsible for the passing of the ordinance. She appeared before the Township Committee and made a complaint that children were roaming the streets late at night. As a result, Jerome T. Congleton, Township Counsel, drew up an ordinance, which was quickly passed, requiring every person under 14 years of age to be off the streets by ten o'clock.

A warning whistle was blown by the Millburn Electric Co. at 9:45, and at ten o'clock a policeman patrolled the streets armed with a strong light, which he flashed into alleys and other hiding places. Those boys of 1912 who are middle-aged men today, say that few had the courage to remain out after curfew. Penalty for violation was severe, and ranged from \$1.00 to \$50.00 fine, and not more than six days in jail, or both. The law was enforced until after the first World War.

Civic pride was mounting and in 1912 a fund was started for a fountain, to be 9

feet 8 inches high, of cast iron, and to cost \$375.00, to be erected at Millburn's four corners, and to be "for man and beast." The Fountain Committee consisted of Joseph H. Rimback, George Berstler, and Edwin D. Pennell. Evidently sufficient funds were never collected, as the fountain was never erected, and the beasts continued to drink from the trough outside of the Millburn Hotel at the corner of Main Street and Millburn Avenue.

In November, 1912 a hardy perennial, the Wyoming Literary Society, which first appeared in these pages in our history of the 1880's, held its first meeting of the new season at the home of Charles F. Coaney of Prospect avenue (now Sagamore road). The Short Hills Girls' Basketball Team triumphed over the Springfield girls, and sidewalk superintendents closely watched the construction of the new Town Hall. During the construction, Millburn's recently acquired chemical engine was housed in the Millburn Electric Company shed.

The years from 1912 to 1917, that uneasy breathing space before the cataclysm of World War I, seems to have passed quietly enough. Efficient, modern ways were manifested in the Township government, many of the physical properties of the Township were renovated, and the school system's standards were greatly improved. The completion of the new Wyoming School about 1910, and the White Oak Ridge School in 1912 [N.B.: renamed?], adequately met the needs of the increasing number of pupils. The appointment of such men as Dr. Frank B. Jewett to the Board of Education and Dr. Charles B. Dyke as Superintendent of Schools, brought new blood into the public schools. Both of these men served the Township in those capacities for nearly a quarter of a century. With Dean Emery, who also served the local school body for many years, they are credited with being the founders of the present modern school system. Their work was later carried on by such Board Presidents as Dr. Luther Gulick, Walter A. Staub and Judge G. Noyes Slayton.

There were wars and rumors of wars, and the great war did not burst upon the country out of the blue. In 1912 Turkey and Bulgaria were engaged in a spirited war, and the Near East was seething. Diaz led a revolution in Mexico. The world leaders were worried that all of Europe would be drawn into the Balkan War, and the feeling between England and Germany, was the cause of great alarm. In fact, when some rapprochement was reached between the banks of England and Germany, a Newark News writer hailed it as possibly the first great step to prevent collision between the two countries. So strong was the feeling of threat of war that Washington ordered strict censorship of war news, lest one improper word would bring us into the conflict.

"Preparedness" became a subject of thought and debate, and in August, 1912, war maneuvers were held on a national scale. One of the first to leave Millburn to take part in the great games was Philip Ross, who left for Connecticut with his Field Battery A of East Orange.

In that momentous summer of 1912 when the world was rushing with breakneck speed toward the end of a way of life which would never come again in this memory of living man, New Jersey's Gov. Woodrow Wilson, was nominated for the presidency of the United States. To oppose him, the Republicans put up the rotund Mt. Taft to run for another term. Into this fairly normal slate of affairs, the vigorous Teddy R. led his charging horde of bullmoose, and as elsewhere, the voters of Millburn were split three ways. The close division of their sentiments may be read in the votes cast here in the election in November. Wilson received 265 votes, Taft 188, Roosevelt 189, Debs 5. and the Prohibition candidate, 5 votes. However, in the Congressional race, the Taft candidate came in first with 171 votes, the Progressive standard bearer received 148, the Democrat's nominee 139 votes, and the Socialist's 7 votes.

Millburn, like most other towns across the nation, seems to have entered the war psychologically long before the declaration date. It had its Anglophiles, and Germanophobes, its long debates over the merits on both sides, and even its hates and pointings of fingers at neighbors suspected of being pro-German.

When finally, the long years of debate came to an end on April 6, 1917, the Township entered the war with a gusto and enthusiasm which no future war would ever know. The glamour has gone out of war now, and the voices and bands are silent, but in 1817-1918 the young men who left Millburn for camp were sent off with speeches, gifts, songs, and band-playing. Many boys were quick to enlist, and some joined the ambulance corps for foreign service even before the declaration.

Unfortunately, it has been impossible to obtain any complete information as to how many and who from Millburn Township went into service. if any role or roster was kept of service men, it has long since been destroyed or mislaid. However, from our invaluable source of information, Edward Lonergan, we learn that the Township gave wholeheartedly to the nation, and that approximately 150 young men joined the armed forces. A few girls, too, took places as nurses or as office workers.

Mr. Lonergan was appointed to the Irvington Draft Board which had jurisdiction over Millburn. Later, Mr. Lonergan, who was Postmaster, had to assume his duties of Township Intelligence officer, and his place on the Draft Board was taken by Edward Pennell.

Millburn Township, small as it was then (the population was about 4100) stepped into high gear to win the war. A Millburn Red Cross organization was quickly completed and went into action. In July, 1917 it held a first exhibition in the Denman Building on Millburn Avenue, of samples of surgical supplies made for the National Society by local members. It announced that the purpose of the exhibition was "to foster interest among local residents in the

work." The exhibition evidently brought results, for on October 1 of that year, a shipment of three boxes each containing 142 dozen surgical dressings left for headquarters.

An associate was formed here under the Hoover Federal Food Conservation Commission to meet food problems, and war gardens were laid out and planted on Millburn avenue where the high school stadium now stands. A Home Guard met regularly for drill on the Fandango Mill grounds, and served ably during the war much as a Civil Defense group might function now. During the Morgan, New Jersey explosion it helped evacuate residents of that area, many of whom were brought to Millburn and fed in soup kitchens set up here.

"Jitney" buses, fare five cents, made their appearance on Township streets, used principally to take men and women to work in war plants. Their coming carried the same threat to the trolley that the automobile had carried to the horse a decade earlier.

Knitting, canning, Red Cross work, and meeting troop trains en route through the town with packages of goodies, kept many Millburn Township women busy throughout the day. The assumption by women of an important place in the war life of the nation brought an increase in their demands for equal rights in the running of the nation. In 1917, woman suffrage occupied a big part of the minds of many women. On July 18th of that year, a group of women picketed the White House to force President Wilson to consider their plea. Among the 16 who went to jail that night in Washington for disturbing the peace was Miss Julie Hurlburt of Short Hills. The ladies spent two days and two nights in the workhouse, but on the petition of representatives of the New Jersey Branch of the National Women's Party, President Wilson pardoned them all. Mrs. A. J. Rose of short Hills took part in the petition to President Wilson. Miss Cora Hartshorn, of course, had long been an advocate of extending the franchise to women, and to all the intrepid pioneers, their associates and others like them, goes the credit for the final admission in 1920 of women into the political life of our country.

On July 22, 1917, in the Newark Sunday Call, a short paragraph appeared in the news from Millburn. It probably did not attract much attention at that time, but in view of later events, we shall quote it in full:

"Guy R. Bosworth of Ocean street, a member of the Hospital Corps in the U.S. Army, who accompanied the first contingent of American troops to France, spent part of last week with his parents. He arrived at an American port last week on a transport which had carried 1200 to France. He will return to duty tomorrow."

What makes this paragraph so poignant is that in the papers just three months

later, on October 21st, appears the account of the sinking of Guy's ship, the "Antilles," on its third trip to France. All on board perished. Guy, 26 years old, a graduate of Millburn High School and the New Jersey College of Pharmacy, thus became not only the first war casualty of Millburn Township, but he and the one or two New Jersey citizens on board with him were the first New Jersey men to die in the cause of democracy.

Millburn's second to give his life was Frank Nazzaro, who was killed in action a few months later. His death was followed by the death of Joseph Boslavage shortly before the Armistice, on October 15, 1918. At the time of his enlistment, Guy Bosworth was a junior pharmacist in Campbell's drug store, and young Mr. Boslavage was a fellow worker in the same pharmacy. Three bronze plaques at the bases of three trees in Taylor Park now stand as their memorials.

Millburn has always given generously to its country's needs. Three casualties do not seem large, but it is a little higher percentage than for the country as a whole. The total number of casualties of the United States (killed) was 48,909. Based on a population of ninety-eight million, the percentage killed was about .0005%. Millburn's three out of its 4100, represented a percentage of .0007¼%. The same higher figures for Millburn prevailed in World War II.

Armistice Day came at last and the young men came home to the biggest parade and reception the town had ever seen.

But an era was ended, and soon the 1920's, the greatest decade of expansion the Township has yet known, was upon it.

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## CHAPTER XX. MILLBURN TOWNSHIP BECOMES A CENTENARIAN

A thumbnail history of Millburn Township commencing with the ending of the first of the great World Wars to the present day, could be set down in the population figures. In 1920, the census counted 4,633 inhabitants; in 1930, 8,602, which means that in only one decade the population almost doubled. The percentage increase was 85.6%. During the same period the increase in the entire state of New Jersey was only 28.1%.

Never before, or since for that matter, has such an increase been recorded here. Throughout most of the 19th century the Township had experienced only the normal growth of most American cities, plus a slow absorption of European immigrants into community life. It had taken all the years between the Civil War and the semi-centennial in 1907 to change the figures from about 1,600 to 3,200, and this during the period of greatest immigration, greatest industrial expansion, (in Millburn), and the influences of an important railroad system coming through the town.

The change, of course, was inevitable. Millburn Township was too accessible to the great cities to remain an isolated country village, and one of the aftermaths of the War was the desire of many people for a change in their mode of living. The housing shortages in the cities, following demobilization, also forced people to look elsewhere, and the cessation of the rigors and disciplines of war produced a great yearning for a change.

More room for children, the security of living among neighbors with whom friendships might be developed, grass and trees and a home garden were powerful inducements to turn city-weary eyes to suburban living. The desire, however, would have been almost impossible of fulfillment, if modern transportation had not been invented; but with the lower priced automobile pioneered by Mr. Ford, and the fine commuting service provided by the railroad, it was no longer necessary for a man to live close to his job.

And so they came, these modern pioneers?not in covered wagons, but in their new Fords, Oaklands, Grays, Stutzes, Rickenbackers, Buicks, Chandlers, Nashes, Studebakers, Maxwells, Chalmers, Dodges, Pierce Arrows, Peerlesses, Boos, Marmons, Chevrolets, Jordans, Dorts, Clevelands, Durants, Libertys, Moons, Packards, Cadillacs, Hudsons, Lexingtons, Haynes and Mercers, and many others for the makes of automobiles were endless and constantly growing.

The great estates were breaking up as the old owners died; and help to run the huge houses and extensive grounds became more and more unavailable and



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expensive. Undeveloped lands of the Brisons, Campbells, Whittinghams, Hartshorns, Hacks, Taylors, Days, Traphagens, Renwicks, and Farleys gradually went on the real estate market, and out of them grew the developments which are known today as the Knollwood, Glenwood, South Mountain, Homestead, Old Short Hills Estates, Deerfield, Cross Roads, Woodfield, and Country Club sections. Subdivision of the estates into smaller building sites went on with increasing rapidity, and eventually six or eight or even more houses might stand where one had been before.

With the passing of more stringent zoning laws within the last few years, and particularly the authority given the Township under a State Statute passed in 1953, giving the Planning Board broad powers (N.J.S. 40:55-1, et seq.), this trend to subdivide into smaller and smaller parcels has been halted.

With the adoption of the Master Plan permitted by this Act the Township has authority to prescribe the amount of land which must surround each house according to its zone.

While new citizens were moving in, old landmarks were disappearing. In November, 1922, one of the oldest buildings still standing on Main street at Meeker place was razed by order of its owners, Miss Lizzie Meeker and Mrs. Phoebe Osborne.

This building was once a shoe maker's shop, purchased by John Meeker from Aaron Dean in 1848. At that time it was one of the five houses which stood on Main street between the railroad and Springfield.

In a November, 1922 interview with a reporter for the Newark Evening News, Miss Meeker stated that her father John Meeker, carried on a shoe making business there. He employed seven men, at wages from 50 to 75 cents a day. M. Meeker took the finished shoes to New York City to sell.

it was an all-day journey to New York; he went by way of Elizabeth and then by boat to New York. If he missed the boat home he journeyed to Newark and walked from Newark to Millburn. Once, she recalled, he had made red topped leather shoes with gilt eagles on top for two local customers, Robert Oliver and Thomas Fennessy. After the handmade shoe making business declined, he turned the shop into a general store and kept store for 30 years." Among his wares were pies made daily by his wife. Later Taylor brothers had an ice cream parlor there, and it was then taken over by Frank Tichenor.

Miss Meeker's mother was Permelia C. Roll, a niece of Baltus Roll who was murdered by robbers in his home on the mountain near the present golf club bearing his name. He is buried in Westfield and his gravestone tells the manner of his decease.

Miss Meeker continued the interview by telling that her grandfather was Jonathan Meeker who lived on "Meeker Hill" near the present corner of Old Short Hills Road and Hobart Avenue. Her great-grandfather was Timothy Meeker, Jr. who lived in the present South Mountain Reservation near South Orange Avenue. He was one of the nine brothers and two brothers-in-law who fought in the Revolutionary War. Again in the interview of 1922 an old legend again cropped up. Miss Meeker said that then Timothy Meeker had gone to the to the battle of Springfield he left a yoke of oxen standing in the field and hurried to the battle. His wife unyoked the oxen and left the plow in the furrow. The story Lizzie Meeker had heard from her grandfather was that later on that day of battle two Hessian soldiers deserted. They followed the Rahway River until they came to Timothy's farm. They got there at daybreak and took a milk pail to milk a cow for their breakfast. Timothy's wife discovered them, gave them breakfast and set them to work. When her husband came home from the fighting he hired one of them and found work for the other at a neighbor's. Eventually they married and settled around here.

We now have three versions of the story of the deserting Hessian boys. The most accepted one is that they found refuge in the old Smith-Reeve house at 155 Millburn Avenue; the other that they hid in the Meeker barn near Glen Avenue, and the third, the one repeated above. Of course, the two latter stories may be reconciled, as one of the Meeker family had a farm along Old Short Hills Road, the location of the story could understandably be mixed up over the years. Another explanation may be that several Hessians deserted during the battle of Springfield. To further complicate the situation, or perhaps to provide the real explanation, the house at 155 Millburn Avenue is sometimes referred to as the old "Meeker house." On early maps a J. E. Meeker is shown as living in that vicinity. If one of the nine sons of old Timothy did live in the house on Millburn Avenue at the time of the War, the name Meeker is rightly part of the tale. Later tellers of the story, simply, and no doubt in good faith, picked out the Meeker home they knew best as the setting for the legend. It is, of course, possible, too, that the boys hid in the Millburn Avenue house during the night, and at daybreak moved on to some farm farther away. However, this is simple conjecture and not history.

It is safe to assume, however, that the legend has a strong basis in fact, as the tale, the same in its essential elements, has been handed down and repeated so often by credible persons who were not too far removed in time from the Revolution.

Another Newark News story appeared on October 13, 1922, and concerned the same old house at 155 Millburn Avenue, said to have been built by Harvey Smith in 1730, now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kahn. In 1922 the house was occupied by Miss Amanda Reeve who had lived there 68 years. She referred to the house as "the old Henderson place". The house was

purchased by Miss Reeve's father in 1854. The large Reeve family had lived all around that section from early times. Miss Reeve said that her grandmother had told her that when she was a little girl there had been an Indian hut "down yonder in the field." Miss Reeve was the proud owner of a chair which had been carried to a place of safety when news of the approaching battle of Springfield was cried. In 1935 the Smith-Henderson-Reeve house was certified as an historic building by the U. S. Department of the Interior and a detailed description of its plan filed in the Library of Congress.

The charm of these old stories is enhanced by the thought that they link Millburn's heroic past so vividly with modern times, so that a bright thread of history runs unbrokenly down the long years from then to now.

Another landmark, the Vauxhall Inn, located where the present Woolworth store now stands, was torn down in 1923 to make way for a modern building. The house, before it was an inn, was the home of Israel D. Condit, who in his lifetime, which spanned most of the 19th century, had been responsible for much of Millburn's industrial development, as had been told in previous chapters of our history.

Property values rose in the Township as postwar prices soared and demands grew. A two-family house in Millburn was advertised in 1922 at \$10,500.00, and a one-family house at \$6,700, and building lots on Hobart avenue at \$35.00 a foot. These prices do not seem high now by present day standards, but they do represent more than a 100% increase above pre-war days.

Prices for food and clothing were mounting also, and do not seem far below today's. At the A. & P. in 1923, one dozen eggs cost 61 cents, and other standard commodities were proportionately high. Silk stockings were still a luxury item, and on Sept. 16, 1923, Altman's (New York) advertised silk hose with lisle tops and soles at \$1.95; all silk medium weight, \$3.95 and \$4.75, and all silk chiffon weight, \$4.75 to \$11.50 a pair.

However, a Ford runabout could be bought for \$265, and a Ford four-door sedan for \$685?whereas a Moon sedan sold for \$1,695?and Nash prices went up to \$2,190.

Amidst these rising costs, one cost went down?and that was the trolley fare, which was reduced to five cents within city limits, with smaller additional zone fares beyond those limits. This action was the last desperate attempt to fight the competition of "jitney" buses, but although the head of the transportation company issued a statement that he felt trolleys were here to stay, and the new system of charging would bring new life, the trolley's heyday was even then past, and this pleasant and somewhat inefficient way of travel would soon go the way of the canal boat and horsecar.

But while the old disappeared, the new sprang up and flourished. Now the radio occupied the center of the stage and that newspapers of the day devoted many pages to articles on how to build and operate a home radio, and advertising the necessary parts.

Woman had a new look, too, as she appeared in public in knickerbockers and short hair, and there were more mutterings as to what the world was coming to. A judge in one town (happily not Millburn) ruled that a woman wearing knickerbockers was guilty of committing a nuisance.

With the right to vote given to women under the 19th amendment in 1920, women began to play an active part in political life. Acceptance of woman in this role was not easy, and the pioneers who struggled to achieve this right faced great opposition and criticism, not only from the males, but sometimes even from members of their own sex.

The first woman to face this opposition from the old order was Mrs. Millicent Maxfield, who after much argument, which in some quarters was bitter and acrimonious, finally in 1923 was appointed the first woman member of the Board of Education.

She served only a short time, as family circumstances made it necessary for her to move to California. But woman's right had been secured, and her place was taken by Nellie Doremus Ross; she in turn was succeeded by Stella Voorhees, and thus in a few years female members were accepted as a matter of course.

In September, 1923, a Millburn unit of the New Jersey Women's Republican Club was given permission to hold meetings in the Municipal Building. This new unit was a direct descendant of the Literary Study Club started by Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn, Mrs. A. S. Ross, Miss Sarah Bailey, Mrs. R. B. Ferguson, and Mrs. E. L. Kellogg in 1887, and its successor, the Political Study Club.

The Unit started with 25 active and about 50 associate members, and reached its peak in 1929 when it had about 175 active members. Then the state organization disbanded and local women were faced with the decision to reorganize or to start a new organization.

The latter won out, and the Millburn Women's Club came into being in 1930 with Mrs. John R. Voorhees its first President, and Mrs. John Taylor its first honorary member. In 1936 a Women's Independent Republican Club was founded, and Mrs. Gaston Chanier was elected the first president at an organization meeting held at the home of Mrs. William K. Wallbridge.

A men's political organization, the Millburn Republican Club, was organized in 1927 by Reynier J. Wortendyke, Jr. (now Judge Wortendyke). The first president was G. Noyes Slayton.

In the 1920's, Short Hills had another literary society, called the Short Hills Reading Class, which met at members' homes, discussed books and listened to authors and lecturers. On September 13, 1923, Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn entertained the group and heard Miss Agnes Repplier, famous writer and essayist of the period, speak on "Sentimental America."

A Wyoming Home and School Association, a forerunner of P.T.A., was organized in the early 1920's. It met in the Wyoming Club, after that club was established in 1922.

The great earthquake in Japan on September 1, 1923, in which 143,000 persons died and unknown numbers of thousands were injured, brought prompt action by the Millburn Red Cross. They immediately joined with other chapters in the country in the Japanese Relief Fund and began a drive for contributions of money and clothing. Mrs. Frank Marshall of Taylor street headed the committee to receive donations which poured in generously.

one of the most beneficial things to happen to the community occurred in 1924, when Millburn's beautiful Taylor Park was presented to the Township as the gift of Mrs. John Taylor in memory of her husband. The 13-acre area in the center of town was purchased by Mrs. Taylor from Mrs. Elizabeth Whittingham, who generously charged only its assessed value, which was less than 50% of its then market value.

The landscaping and planting of the Park were supervised by the Shade Tree Commission, created for that purpose, consisting of W. F. Patterson, Mrs. W. K. Wallbridge and Frank Schmidt. The landscape architect was the younger Olmstead of the famous landscape architect family which had created most of America's beautiful parks.

Mrs. Taylor not only paid for the land and its landscaping, but presented it fully equipped with swimming pool, tennis courts, playground, and baseball diamond. Brian F. Philpot made the presentation on behalf of Mrs. Taylor on Decoration Day in 1924, and Dean Emery made the speech of dedication. In his speech he said, "This is your Park. Care for it, protect it, and guard it."

The original shelter house is now used by the Girl Scouts. In 1934 with Federal aid, and through the generosity of Stewart Hartshorn in donating stone from his quarry, a fieldstone house was erected. Its furniture was supplied by the Junior Service League. In 1957 this house was greatly extended and enlarged, and provided with more recreational equipment.

At the time of the dedication, the Township Committee consisted of Chairman G. Howard Wilson, Wellington Campbell, M.D., James Pennoyer, John D. McCollum, and George J. Berstler. The community has faithfully carried out Mr. Emery's admonition, and is proud of this beautiful recreational area in the heart of its town

Without the foresight and generosity of Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Whittingham, and Township officials, and the citizens who supported them, it is almost certain that a housing development and commercial buildings would occupy this land now, with the lovely brook piped under it, perhaps, and the cherry trees and willows unknown to the present generation.

The Shade Tree Commission continued to have charge of the Park from 1924 until 1936, when a Recreation commission was created for that purpose, although the Shade Tree Commission still looks after the upkeep of the land. The first Supervisor of Athletics was John Little. That title was later changed to Superintendent of Recreation, a position now held by George H. Bauer.

Another breathing space for the community, created out of wild, undeveloped woodland was provided by Miss Cora Hartshorn, who in 1923 began to build her Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary, consisting of 16.45 acres on Forest Drive, south of the railroad.

Miss Hartshorn wrote in her "Little History of the Short Hills Section" that the topography of the place had always interested her very much. It consisted of a series of little hills and valleys formed by the terminal moraine which came to a halt at that point. (Readers of our Millburn History will recall that they were first introduced to the subject of terminal moraine in Chapter 1).

Miss Hartshorn designed her drives and paths in rhythmic lines around these small hills, keeping most of them on easy grades. By 1938 there were 3 miles of these paths. The "Stone House" was begun in 1931. Its architect was Bernhardt E. Muller of Short Hills. The house is built out of blue traprock from the Hartshorn quarry, which was cut under the personal supervision of Stewart Hartshorn, then in his 93d year. The stones were quarried to retain much of their original columnar form and their varied colors.

The rafters of the house were hand hewn oak trees from Hartshorn land and nearly all the work was done by local men who thus found gainful employment, Miss Hartshorn says, during the days of the great depression of the early 30's. The stone house was completed in 1933.

This sanctuary may some day provide the only place in the Township where a glimpse may be had of primitive, natural beauty. Miss Hartshorn wrote in 1946

that up to that time, 55 species and 232 varieties of wild flowers, besides many ferns, had found shelter there, and more than 72 birds had been sighted. For her work in developing this haven Miss Hartshorn has received awards from the Gardens Clubs of New Jersey and the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

The roaring twenties ended in the long shadow of the stock market crash of 1929 and the financial depression which followed, and Millburn Township experienced, like the rest of the country the anguish and worries of those bitter days.

In looking over the news of that period the people seem to have met the depression with courage and determination to help themselves. A community center was set up in the building now the Racquets Club to provide a much needed and inexpensive place of recreation. Free dances, with W.P.A. orchestras, lectures, theatricals and other forms of entertainment helped immeasurably in upholding the morale of the people.

The depression brought many problems to the Township, but ways to meet them were set in motion. A Relief Administration was set up in the early 1930's, and many families were given aid. During the last two weeks of February, 1933, \$1,434.63 was paid out in relief. By 1938 although a "recession" year, this figure was more than cut in half, when \$1,236.00 was paid out to 193 people during a four-week period. However, in October, 1938, a Citizens Relief Committee, made up of Albert F. Jaques, Henry W. Johnstone, Ernest D. Brita, G. Ballon Landa, and Laurens E. Whittemore, was appointed by the Township Committee to supplement the Emergency Relief Administration in devising means of coping with the seriousness of the relief problem in the Township, and devising means of assisting in the rehabilitation of citizens on relief. Foreclosures for tax liens in 1938 amounted to \$38,277.20 which was a considerable drop from previous figures, but was still high.

Many men during the depression decade found work with the P.W.A., the W.P.A., the C.C.C. and other government relief agencies and worked on road and other community projects.

In March, 1933, the Board of Education voted to cut by 12-1/2% all salaries of teachers receiving more than \$1,000.00 a year, and this cut was in addition to a smaller cut previously authorized. Eventually, all municipal employees received substantial salary reductions.

The suggestion was made at a Township Committee meeting in April, 1933, that a municipal parking lot be built by unemployed residents to lessen traffic congestion in the main business section. The site considered was the town owned property between Main Street and Lackawanna Place on the west bank

of the Rahway River. No action was immediately taken. Today, however, that site is one of the Township's busiest parking areas.

3.2% beer came back and 20 temporary licenses to sell beer were granted at the first committee meeting of April, 1933. Eight taverns, six retail stores, three restaurants, and three clubs were the first to take advantage of this new condition, and the revenues ranging from \$15.00 a week for taverns, to \$2.00 a week for clubs, were welcomed in the Township treasury. The tax rate for 1933 was 3.19.

In February, 1933, the Township was rocked by one of the most controversial episodes in the history of its government. That year, the Township Committee, although all members of the same political party, was divided into two warring factions of three and two members. One group claimed to have discovered irregularities in the Township Treasurer's office which they did not report to the other committee members, but took to the local newspaper. The Town Treasurer was the political leader of his Party in the Township and a friend of Jesse Salmon, the Essex County Republican "boss." The local newspaper, which was under different ownership than it is now, printed the "scoop" and, of course, the news struck like a thunderbolt. The Treasurer had held his office for twenty years. The discrepancy turned up amounted to \$1,321.15, represented by one check. The Treasurer denied all wrongdoing, but said he sometimes did not deposit checks immediately in order to keep some cash in the cash drawer, and did not realize that that was illegal. He made a statement that he was ready to make good for any bookkeeping errors which might appear in the accounts.

Almost immediately the Township was besieged by reporters from city papers looking for news, and many papers took stands for and against the Treasurer. The Newark Evening News took an impartial stand, the local paper was anti-Treasurer, and the South Orange Record which carried considerable Millburn news for a few weeks that year, in an evident attempt to increase its circulation here, maintained that the Township Treasurer was the victim of his enemies. "Citizens Resent Slur Against Treasurer; Residents in Heated Discussion", ran its boldface headlines of February 24, 1933.

The Township Committee, unwilling to get together even under such circumstances, further confused the issue by making many charges and denials. On February 27th the Treasurer was suspended for two weeks. No official reason was disclosed for this action. He was simply given "two weeks leave of absence." George O. Lord was named temporary Treasurer. In the meantime, while the case was being thoroughly tried in the newspapers, public opinion demanded a complete investigation. On March 20th a bond issue of \$3,000.00 was authorized to defray the costs of investigating the records. The Treasurer was indicted by the Grand Jury and a date was set for trial. In the five months before indictment and trial, feelings continued to run high, with



some shouting "frameup", others demanding to know why the default was not discovered sooner.

The Treasurer was never tried. Early in the morning of the day of the opening of the trial, he was found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in his garage. The coroner's verdict was "possible suicide." His friends insisted he had been hounded to his death by persecution. To his enemies, his possible suicide was a proof of guilt. However, he was never tried and proved guilty, and under our American system of justice that is where the case now rests.

Millburn's troubles did not make the first pages of the out-of-town papers in that late winter of 1933. Everybody had troubles, some on a national scale, and bank closings, spectacular suicides, defalcations in higher places, took precedence over suburban news. Also, in late February and early March, 1933, the approaching first inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt and plans, rumors, and speculations of the coming changes in Washington, filled many front pages of the city dailies.

However, in spite of depressions and other great upheavals life has a way of going on, and the private citizens of Millburn went about their affairs in as much a state of normality as the times permitted. In the Spring of 1932 the Township celebrated the bicentennial of George Washington's birth, with a parade, speeches, and other appropriate ceremonies. One of the last of the amateur minstrel shows was given at St. Rose of Lima's on April 29, 1933, with Mrs. Katherine Murray acting as interlocutor, and Helen Mercek, Elizabeth Tighe, Mildred Delaney, and Margaret Mullen, endmen.

The traffic booth in the middle of Millburn Avenue and Main Street was deemed a traffic hazard and removed. This booth was the last attempt, to date at least, of filling that important intersection with some object? a large drinking fountain for man and beast had been proposed for it; a high flagpole did actually occupy the spot, (removed and re-erected in Taylor Park), and finally the traffic booth came and went as modern conditions demanded its removal.

An honor roll was published for the High School in 1933, and achieving top scholastic honors was Millburn High's sensational rightend, Fred Cleveland. Carl Allen, Hoen Phillips, and Grant Horneffer were close contenders for top rank. A basketball team was organized at the Hobart Avenue School with Edward Buncher directing it, and the Child Laboratory Art Group under Van Dearing Perrine of Sagamore Road held its annual exhibition. The popular feature of the exhibition was the paintings of 16-year old Herbert S. Pierce who has since achieved recognition as a watercolor artist. Mrs. Elizabeth Whittingham, well-known citizen of Millburn, daughter of Edward S. Renwick and daughter-in-law of Dr. Edward Whittingham, passed away in the pivotal year of 1933 when so many ties with the past were fraying and breaking apart.

A sentimental link with the past was severed when Mrs. Schulze's "Penny candy" store closed its door. The building in which it was housed was torn down to make room for more playground for the Washington School. If it had to go, it had a fitting end, at least. Now children enjoy the freedom of recess and learn the rudiments of fair play and good sportsmanship on the land where once their predecessors had to solve the important problem of deciding whether to buy one scoop of chicken corn or two all-day suckers for their penny. For more than thirty years, Mrs. Schulze had dispensed chocolate marshmallow Foxy grandpas, gelatinous pickles and black babies, licorice shoe buttons and shoe laces, sugary dots on long strips of white paper, peppermint lozenges, pink-striped and flavorful, and other delectable wares to Millburn juveniles. Pennies were hard to come by, and the decisions on how to spend them took fortitude and patience on the part of the storekeeper. But time was a flexible commodity in the first years of the 20th century and currency and wares changed hands in a pleasant bilateral transaction, sometimes with the first tones of the school bell hastening the decision.

If the 1920 decade is famous for the greatest increase in population growth, then the 1930's might be notable for the greatest increase in number of local organizations. It has been said that there were in existence by 1935 at least 83 active organizations, or roughly about one for every 100 people, and although this exact figure cannot now be verified, the number was undoubtedly high. They covered civic, religious, social, cultural, fraternal and patriotic groups, many of them, of course, overlapping one another in their activities. At least they were a good antidote for the depressing times. Many of these organizations, strengthened and enlarged through the intervening years, survive today, including the Racquets Club, the Garden Study Club, the Junior Service League, the Rotary, Women's Independent Republican Club, and Millburn Women's Club, the origins of some of which have been mentioned in previous installments. Guy Bosworth Post of the American Legion was formed in 1920, but disbanded three years later. It reorganized in 1930, and its Women's Auxiliary was formed in 1931.

In 1933 "New Eyes for the Needy, Inc." was founded by Mrs. Arthur Terry, and its work was eventually taken over by the Junior Service League. This charitable organization, growing out of the needs of the depression, still supplies eyeglasses and eye care to people who are unable to meet the costs of these services. Its funds are chiefly provided through donations of old eyeglasses, and gifts of old jewelry, silverware and other precious metals, which now arrive in town by mail or express daily from practically everywhere. For many years the Item office has acted as a receiving center for these gifts.

Parent Teacher Associations grew as new schools were added to the Township's public school system, so that each school now has its own association.

In 1933 Police Chief C. Norbert Wade detailed Sergeant John A. Dalton to organize a safety patrol at every school to help children cross intersections. The "Junior Safety Patrol" grew out of this appointment. Sergeant Dalton organized the first Hobart Avenue School and the Washington School patrol quickly followed. All other elementary schools and the Parochial School now have patrols.

The Wyoming Section had a Boy Scout Troop, No. 12, in 1920, but it was discontinued in 1923 for lack of membership. It was reorganized in 1925 after which Troop 14 of Millburn and Troop 15 of Short Hills were formed.

The Girl Scout movement came to life in 1927 as Troop No. 1, which prospered and later grew big enough to split into two troops. The "Girl Scout Council of Millburn Township, Inc." received its charter from the national organization in 1930 with Mrs. Arthur T. Vanderbilt as its first commissioner. In 1955, 868 girls here belonged to 47 troops.

In the 1930's the Jockey Hollow Field Trials Club, had many active members, and the Washington Rock Rod & Gun Club was organized in 1934. On September 21, 1938, the Short Hills Chapter of the D.A.R. held its organizational meeting. Several fraternal and patriotic societies which have since disappeared were flourishing in that decade also.

The Millburn Community Council was formed on April 4, 1934, as a permanent council of social agencies in Millburn Township. The meeting was held at the Barberry Corner Tea Room which stood at the northeast corner of Taylor and Spring Streets behind the present New Jersey Bell Telephone Building. Mrs. Thayer Smith was the first Chairman. The name was changed in December, 1936, to the "Millburn Community Council." The Council was formed principally to establish cooperative relationship between social and civic welfare organizations and to prevent duplication of their services.

Several organizations had been in existence for many years prior to 1930, however, and should be noted in passing. Continental Lodge F. & A. Masons was organized in 1908 and several local men had belonged to the Passaic Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution since 1915. A Millburn Council of the Knights of Columbus was formed in 1925, and the Catholic Daughters started a chapter here soon afterward.

Civic Associations devoted to the interests of their particular sections sprang up as more vacant land became housing developments. The Wyoming and Short Hills Associations started in 1907 and 1910, and were followed in the 1930's and in later years by the Knollwood, Brookhaven, Glenwood, South Mountain, Casa Colombo, Cross Roads-Deerfield, Old Short Hills Estates, and Country Club Associations.

In 1934 the Papermill Playhouse Corporation acquired the property of the Diamond Paper Mill which had, after many decades finally ceased operation. Again an echo of an old story returns. The Diamond Paper Mill on Brookside Drive was located on the site of a mill built before the Revolution and destroyed by fire, as we have told before. Abraham and Jonathan Parkhurst rebuilt it about 1820 and operated it as a binder board mill for many years. Ownership passed from the Parkhursts to Israel D. Condit, and then finally to the Diamond Mill which manufactured colored tissue papers there until the late 1920's. It is said that people passing over the bridge on Millburn Avenue could tell each day what color tissue was being manufactured by the color of the water on that particular day.

After many renovations and additions the old mill opened as a modern theatre and cultural center. Until her recent death, Miss Antoinette Q. Scudder was its devoted patroness, and Frank Carrington has been its Director since it was first opened. Today the Paper Mill Playhouse is a thriving theatre known all over the country. Its repertoire now consists almost entirely of "after Broadway" modern plays, interspersed occasionally with revivals of older musical comedies, acted by a semi-permanent company. Symphony orchestras and dance groups also give recitals there. It houses an art gallery where works of New Jersey artists, both individuals and art groups, are shown concurrently with the running of each play.

In 1938 by popular referendum, Millburn Township at last had a free public library. Many times throughout the life of the Township attempts had been made to establish a library in Millburn.

As long ago as 1873 Stewart Hartshorn had established a reading room. Later, Mrs. Hartshorn, and a group of ladies had made another effort. In the 1930's Frederick J. Clark willed his personal library to the Town as a nucleus for a library. Then in 1935, the Junior Service League appointed Mrs. W. S. Auchincloss Chairman of a committee to establish a reading room in the Recreation House in Taylor Park. Two thousand books were donated by citizens. The project was abandoned in 1936 for lack of help and cooperation from the public and the books were stored in the Paper Mill Playhouse. Later a meeting was held there and the Millburn Library Association was formed, supported by private subscriptions, but the Library was still not available to enough families. However, it was an important step forward for it had the effect of arousing the citizens to an awareness of the need for a free and public library.

Public-spirited citizens took up the battle and the question was at last put up to the voters in the November 1938, election, and the question was finally settled.

The first library building was located in a small house, since razed, at the

intersection of Brookside Drive and Old Short Hills Road. That house had been a private home, then Cornell's butcher shop, then its ownership passed to the Township, and then became the first Library. Mrs. Shirley Hedden\* was one of the first librarians. During the first year of its existence 23,302 books were taken out; last year, (1957) the circulation was 81,670 books. The library now houses 30,731 books, most of them acquired by purchase, but many were received as gifts also,

\*Mrs. Shirley Hedden was the children's librarian and assistant to the head librarian until the resignation of Miss Frances Duck as chief librarian in 1946. The first head librarian in 1938 was Margaret R. VanIngen, and she was succeeded by Dorothy A. Dickie, but each served only a short time.

Miss Duck came to Millburn in 1941 and under her regime the number of books increased from 10,000 to 14,000 volumes and the subscribers to 4,524. However, Mrs. Hedden served the Library continuously from 1940 until her resignation in 1957.

among the latter being the business library of Walter A. Staub which was presented as a memorial to Mr. Staub. Miss Elizabeth Farrar succeeded Mrs. Hedden as Librarian in 1957.

Before turning away from the 1930's, it might be amusing, and perhaps a little nostalgic, to quote some prices appearing in advertisements during the last years of the decade. In the Anniversary Edition of the Item, October 21, 1938, Haymarch's at 327 Millburn Avenue offered prime rib roast at 25¢ a pound, blue fish, 15¢ a pound, best country butter, 2 pounds for 57¢, sugar, 10 pounds for 43¢. At King's Mart at 351 Millburn Avenue, Pillsbury flour was 24-1/2 pounds for 77 cents, and either California or Florida oranges, 20 for 25¢. Maxwell house coffee was 23¢ a pound. At the A. & P., also on Millburn Avenue, pork and beans cost 5¢ a can, and 2 large loaves of white bread could be bought for 15¢. The Stop and Shop Market next to Woolworth's at 321 Millburn Avenue offered potatoes at 15 pounds for 19¢, and lemons, 7¢ a dozen. Waese's liquor shop at 36 Main Street advertised 11-year old Scotch for \$3.39 a fifth, and the best 8-year straight Canadian rye at \$2.49 a quart. An R. C. A. console grand radio, with victrola attachment, and \$9.00 worth of records, buyer's choice and other extra gifts thrown in, could be purchased at Marks Brothers, 357 Millburn Avenue for \$99.95. In Dave's Market at 347 Millburn Avenue legs of lamb cost 25¢ a pound, and Jersey Loins of pork, 19¢ a pound.

Before the 1930 decade had ended, the shadow of Hitler and the possibility of American participation in another war loomed dark and menacing. A worried citizenry strove to understand and stem the tide. As early as March 10, 1933, Rev. A. Powell Davies of Summit addressed the Millburn Rotary on "Conditions in England and France," and a symposium, "Must War Be?" was

held at the high school on March 31, 1933, with the Rev. H. M. Sibley of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church acting as chairman.

Talks, debates, and discussions on the uneasy times and how to deal with them were held frequently throughout the 1930's in Millburn's church school, and social organizations.

But the tide was at flood and no human being could hold it back. The Selective Service Act had been passed in 1940, and on October 16, 1940, Local Board No. 2 of Essex County, assumed jurisdiction over Millburn.

The first Board was composed of Norman F. Wiss, Harvey M. Roberts, and Stephen Barker, Nicholas N. Heyman served on it as Re-employment Committeeman, Mrs. Mickelina D'Ariano was clerk, Fred Herrigel Jr. was Appeals Agent, and Hilman E. Blaicher was assistant Appeals Agent.

The first registration called up all men born between October 17, 1904, and October 16, 1919, and 1,065 men in this age bracket registered. The first two selectees were Allen D. Snyder and Daniel S. Kaufhold who reported for induction on November 25, 1940. In a brief ceremony, John A. Stewart and Stephen Baker wished them well; the American Legion transported them to the Newark Armory where they both qualified and were sent to Fort Dix.

Before the War ended there were six classes of registrations taking in all men up to the age of 64 years, and 4,115 had been registered. Out of this number 604 were inducted. Although, 1642 including women in the various services, were members of the Armed Forces, the majority of them had enlisted. (This figure is based on the record in Memorial Hall, Millburn Library).

The most fateful day in the lives of every man, woman, and child living on that December 7, 1941, dawned bleak and chilly, and the weather reports promised no hopes of better. "Cloudy and cold" ran the Weather Bureau's announcement across the headlines? A good day to stay at home, read the papers, listen to the radio, eat and sleep.

Those Millburn residents who read a New Jersey paper probably subscribed to the Newark Sunday Call. Its lead story that morning was the most recent note sent by President Roosevelt personally to the Emperor of Japan. It was hailed as possibly the first step for peace. The message was interpreted by the papers as dissatisfaction with Prime Minister Tojo's explanation of why Japan had massed 125,000 troops near the French-Indo China border, and the appeal to Hirohito himself was thought to be likely to bring good results.

The news from Europe was given smaller headlines, "Nazis Advance on Moscow Using 8,000 Tanks, Great Battle Looms," read one; "RAF and

German Planes Clash on Road to Tobruk," read another, but equal space was given to Tommy Manville's parting with his fifth wife, the marriage of King Leopold of Belgium to a commoner, and the arrival of Ambassador Litvinov in Washington.

The New York Times featured just about the same news, with the principal space being devoted to the latest Roosevelt note to the Emperor. The Times also gave a front page column to a statement of Secretary Knox that the United States Navy was superior to any. He cited the recent commissioning of 325 new ships and 2,059 planes.

For those who looked forward to an afternoon at the Millburn "movies," a double feature, "Honky Tonk" with Clark Gable and Lana Turner, and "I'll Wait for You", were offered. A hockey game in New York would draw some enthusiasts for that sport to Madison Square Garden. It is interesting to note, now, the type of entertainment which was provided everywhere at that time. Europe was in a struggle to the death; America stood at the brink of the cataclysm. Perhaps with these unbearable pressures upon them, the people had need of escape in their theatrical and literary worlds. In the New York theatres the plays were sweet and simple. "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Life with Father," "The Corn is Green," "Junior Miss," were the leading hits of the day.

The first page of the Sunday Book Review section was given over to a new book, "Hollywood, Movie Makers," by Leo C. Rostein. Other books mentioned in the New York Times list of the most recent books were "Saratoga Trunk" by Edna Ferber, "Wide is the River" by Louis Bromfield, "G String Murders," Gypsy Rose Lee, "Wakefield's Course," Mazo de la Roche, and a Civil War book, "The Copperheads" by William Blake.

The day's radio program promised more realistic entertainment. WJC at 3p.m. would have a discussion, "Wake Up America," and WEA's University of Chicago program would be a Round Table discussion, "Canada, Neighbor at War." The New York Philharmonic Orchestra with Arthur Rubinstein, soloist, was scheduled for 3 p.m. and Charlie McCarthy and the Inner Sanctum were to be the evening's high spots.

Gabriel Heater and Elmer Davis were to present the day's news, at 8:45 and 8:55 p.m. respectively, and it may be positively assumed now that the copy they had previously prepared for their talks would be completely revised before they went on the air?for soon after 3 p.m. every radio in the country was suddenly silenced, and over the loud speakers came the electrifying news that Pearl Harbor had been bombed and a state of war existed between the United States and Japan.

A Millburn citizen, Francis Day, gave his life in the early dawn of that dreadful

day. He was Chief Watertender on the Oklahoma, which went down under Japanese bombs. Some time later it was learned that he had died a real hero's death. Citations accompanying the Navy and Marine Corps medals awarded to him posthumously stated that when the Oklahoma capsized, Day was trapped in a compartment with a number of the crew. He assisted 15 of them to escape through a submerged porthole, but was himself unable to get out before the ship went to the bottom.

On October 14, 1943, the U.S.S. Day was christened at Philadelphia in honor of this local man, a graduate of the Washington School and Millburn High School.

But there would be many more heroes and more ominous yellow telegrams arriving in the Township before the business begun that December 7, 1941, was ended. William F. Kaupp went down with the destroyer Jacob Jones, George F. Gallion did not survive the "Death March" at Batann.

Smith, Dietze, and Almond, Williams, Carrington, and Ryan, Flaherty, Barnett, Marcantonio, so the roll was called, but these were only the first few. Altogether 44 from every section, every racial ancestry, every religion, laid down their lives in France, Italy, and Germany, in the China Sea, in the Solomon Islands, in places so remote even their names were unknown to almost all Americans before 1941. The names of all of these young men, and the others who came home again, may be read inscribed in a book which stands today in Memorial Hall in the Millburn Public Library.

As in the First World War, Millburn had served its country well. 14% of its population was in the services, 2.6% died?figures above the national average.

However, those who could not take up arms did not stand idle. The participation in the war effort by those who stayed at home included almost every man, woman, and child in the community.

In Millburn Township, as in most other towns in the land, the machinery for war was already set up, and it needed only the spark of that radio message of that chilly Sunday afternoon to cause the wheels to begin turning in full gear. Nine months before Pearl Harbor, acting on an emergency order issued by Gov. A. Harry Moore of New Jersey, chairman John A. Stewart III of the Millburn Township Committee appointed as members of the Local Defense Council the following:

Chairman, General Charles W. Barber, USA ret., Edward F. Lonergan, Homer J. Wright, Dr. Thayer A. Smith, Dr. John R. Patterson, Chief C. Norbert Wade, and Chief J. David Hayes.



This Committee first met on March 28, 1941, and the whole subject of local defense was reviewed. To each member of the group was assigned a division to supervise, respectively, intelligence, food and clothing stocks, police and fire auxiliary services, health and medical aid, school matters, police protection, and fire control.

Out of these appointments eventually came the local Office of Civilian Defense, more commonly known as the OCD, and J. Herbert Woolley became the Commander, Theodore Widmayer, Deputy Commander, Robert MacDougall the Chief Air Raid Warden, and Mrs. Robert T. Veit, Secretary.

The OCD organized every phase of community living for readiness in any eventuality, and although fortunately its services were never used for the purpose of combating air raids, they were always prepared. In total, it was figured that by the close of the war more than 500,000 hours were spent by its leaders in training and in service to the community.

In 1943, the activities of the Defense Council, other than protective, were grouped, under "Community War Services", and Victor A. Traub was appointed chairman of this division. Under this heading salvage, community gardens, child care, consumer interests, war bond sales, and other civilian problems were handled or assigned to various other organizations engaged in war work in Millburn.

The Millburn-Short Hills Red Cross received its charter as a chapter of the American Red Cross on November 16, 1942. Before that, it had carried on its work as a branch of the Newark chapter. The first officers of the new chapter, whose charter was formally presented on January 9, 1943, were Mrs. Frederick W. Nixon, chairman; Mrs. Harry E. Hooley, vice chairman and captain of the Motor Corps; Mrs. Emil W. A. Schumann, recording secretary; Mrs. S. Paul Shackleton, corresponding secretary; and Vance Lauderdale, treasurer.

The war accomplishments of this local chapter would require more space than we have at our disposal to set out in full. Its work until V E Day covered: production, under which 1,616,380 surgical dressings, 21830 garments sewed, and 6,009 knitted were turned out; Motor Corps, whose members averaged 6,000 miles of travel a month; Staff Assistance, in which members were called upon to do office work for the draft board, rationing board, OPA, war fund drives, and for New Jersey hospitals and camps; prisoner of war food packaging; the blood donor service, hospital recreational aid, nurses aids, dietitian aid and nutrition, home service corps, home nursing, disaster and relief, camp and hospital committee, first aid, Junior Red Cross, nurse recruitment, and many miscellaneous services.

The American Woman's Voluntary Services opened its unit here officially on December 15, 1941, at Red Cross headquarters, having been organized by Mrs. George C. Dreher, Mrs. Harold B. Ressler, and Mrs. James Symington, and took over most of the functions which did not come under the work of the Red Cross.

Eventually it had its own headquarters, the little house on Essex Street, now razed, which was usually called the "Annie McGonigle" cottage. The AWVS maintained a War Information Service, assisted in war bond drives and in collecting salvage, clothing, and books for hospitals and servicemen, maintained a motor corps, Halloran Hospital assistance, courses in home canning, war gardening, motor mechanics, and family advisory service for veterans' families.

The AWVS also published "Township Tattle", a monthly publication proposed by Mrs. Carl Egner to furnish home news to servicemen. By 1945 this paper had grown to 18 pages, and one issue numbered 1,300 copies. Mrs. Walter Taylor was the first editor.

Other township organizations turned their entire facilities over to war and homefront problems. The Neighborhood House maintained a home nursing service, family welfare department, child health service, day nursery, nursery school (supported by the Junior Service League), and many other social services which taxed it almost beyond human capacity to undertake; but hands were found, and no one was ever turned away unaided.

The Junior Service League increased its civic services to include its Thrift Shop at 95 Main street, the proceeds of which pay for a trained teacher at the Neighborhood House Nurse School; to provide volunteer workers for the school, and a staff for the well baby clinic.

Substantial money contributions were made by it also to maintain regular community enterprises such as the Girl and Boy Scouts, additions to Overlook Hospital equipment, USO Christmas boxes, to finance blood plasma units, and to continue and enlarge the work of the "New Eyes for the Needy" project, under which, in 1943-4 season, it collected 19,663 eye glasses. Most of these functions later became part of its peacetime undertakings.

The Millburn Theatre did its bit by collecting over \$4,000 for various war funds, and maintaining a bond-soliciting booth, manned by AWVS members, where \$30,000 in bonds and stamps were sold. It also showed special Government films illustrating war needs and aided the scrap drives by occasionally setting the admission price for each child as a bundle of paper or other salvage material.

The American Legion and its Woman's Auxiliary, helped organize the OCD, the Auxiliary Police Reserve, and a unit to spot enemy planes which maintained a 24-hour post at the lookout tower on South Orange avenue, in the Reservation, near Crest drive, Frank Winner and H. Berrien McCain were assistant chief air raid watchers. The Legion also sponsored two waste paper collections which netted over 100 tons of paper and two tons of rags, and also two war bond drives.

Nearly all of the 250 members of the Millburn Woman's Club devoted countless hours of service to the Red Cross, USO, OCD, AWVS, OPA, and similar organizations besides making substantial contributions to the funds of these various groups.

The club collected furniture for Camp Kilmer, Halloran Hospital, and the Newark Army Air Base, and made 17 pairs of curtains for the Recreation Room at Fort Dix. They supplied packages of personal necessities to the men of the battleship New Jersey, sent Christmas boxes, and an uncountable number of cakes and cookies to the various canteen services, nearby hospitals, and camps. Mrs. Charles W. Sidney was the president at the beginning of the war.

Every church in the community conducted special services and maintained various organizations to give spiritual and physical comfort to its service men and women, and the members of their families at home.

The Millburn Ration Board began as a "tire rationing board" on January 3, 1942, with Leroy S. Badgley, Harvey J. Tiger, J. Herbert Woolley, John A. Stewart, Gen. C. W. Barber, and Theodore L. Widmayer as its first members, but its scope soon broadened and it became the Millburn Ration Board with jurisdiction not only over tires, but sugar, shoes, gasoline, bicycles, rents, fuel, coffee, canned and processed fruits and vegetables, meats and fats. Ration books Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 were issued and citizens learned the intricacies of coupons and points.

The Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center, organized on September 18, 1940 by Mrs. Robert Mathes and a group of professional artists, including Stanley Turnbull, Maurice Eisenberg, Lute Pease, Van Dearing Perrine, and Edward Dufner, supplied painting sets and clay materials to local army camps, and entertained servicemen in its craftsroom at the Recreation House.

In 1944 a Christmas card, designed by Robert MacPhail, now a teacher at Millburn High School, was mailed by the Center to every serviceman and woman from the Township. Under the leadership of its 1944 President, Mrs. Claude Hines, the slogan "Art as a Service in War" was adopted, and various programs were carried out to induce men and women to take part in occupational therapy work among the wounded in nearby hospitals, and to

provide entertainment for people at home.

The League of Women Voters was organized near the close of the War, on January 30, 1945, with its principal objective then to help in building a lasting peace when the war ended. The first officers were Mrs. Robert Greenleaf, president, Mrs. Edward Elliott, vice president, Mrs. Leonard Shiman, 2nd vice president, Mrs. M. E. Strieby, treasurer, Mrs. Louis Cross, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Alan Robertson, recording secretary.

Mrs. Robert Mathes presented the slate at the organization meeting. During the remaining war period the League endeavored to bring before the community an understanding of the Dumbarton Oaks and Breton Woods proposals, and discussions were held on such subjects as "Understanding Our Allies," and "America's Foreign Policy."

The foregoing is a brief resume of some of the war work accomplished by the people of Millburn Township. The story could go on and on?the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Library, the various PTA's, the school children, all worked tirelessly and incessantly to help the war effort.

But even that is not all of the story. There are the citizens who as individuals bought over \$10 million in war bonds in the seven loan drives, and contributed more than half a million dollars to meet the needs of the Red Cross, USO, and allied charities and local welfare work. Eventually, drives for such funds were combined in the Millburn Community National War Fund, formed in the fall of 1943, with John Fairfield as chairman. Robert E. Mulcahy was bond chairman and Harvey J. Tiger was drive chairman for the first two bond sales.

"Mr. and Mrs. Millburn Citizen" also contributed, in one war year alone, 31,912 pounds of fat, 1,279 pounds of stockings, 142 fur coats, 42 pounds of cancelled stamps (sent to England to be reprocessed into artificial limbs), milkweed pods for Mae West jackets, musical instruments, untold quantities of paper, tin cans, scrap metal and rubber, used clothing, candle ends, matchbook covers for hospital therapy work, old watches, phonograph records, and thousands of magazines.

Men and women took jobs in war plants, often after their regular work for the day was over. All life, it seemed, but the life of war ceased to exist in the community. And all this was done with a minimum of complaints while they wrestled with the petty vexations of wartime living?shortages of staples, queing up for cigarettes, and sugar, hunting for stockings, finding substitutes for butter, stretching meat, gasoline, and fuel allowances, tending gardens and canning their products, doing without, or making do, listening for air raid sirens, and performing the tasks assigned to them by the various associations to which they belonged.

But the end of war did come at last and the Township became part of the Atomic Age in a era of uneasy peace. The young men and women came home from the ends of the earth, quietly, one by one, or in small groups, without fanfare or parade, and the work laid aside in years of violence was picked up once more.

Battles end some day. The fighting men came home, and slowly the people of a community whose life for five years has been devoted almost entirely to the demands of war pick up the threads of a former existence and begin to weave them once more into a whole. But there are many loose ends to be gathered up before a war can be completely set aside, and the many changes which wars inevitably bring are soon apparent.

In an early chapter of our history we traced the changes which the only war fought on our own soil brought to the little settlement which lay along the waterways. Soon after the Revolution the community changed from an agricultural to an industrial one, with the resulting influx of people to work in the expanding mills and factories.

In the post-Civil War era, and particularly during the prosperous recovery years following the 1878 financial panic, the recently-acquired wealth accumulated by a strata of American society, turned many square miles of wild countryside into the large and beautiful estates which grew up among the short hills, and also dotted with gracious early Victorian houses the side of the Watchung mountain, in a section picturesquely called "Wyoming" by its inhabitants.

The building of these homes in these outlying sections of Millburn Township started the trend toward the establishment of a community having as its principal reason for existence the providing of good homes for families whose heads worked in the great cities nearby.

After the first World War the swing from industrial to suburban living was completed, and the population soared beyond all expectations, doubling itself in a 10-year period, as the modern pioneers from the cities moved in to take possession of their newly-built homes.

The years following World War II not only witnessed another great upswing in population with the resultant real estate developments carved out of the former large estates, hut also saw the appurtenances and adjuncts to suburban living follow the people to their new destination.

Department stores, supermarkets, insurance companies, all becomingly tailored in settings of green grass and flowering shrubs, settled down in the Township and helped bring about the present phase of its life.

But before this great change could be completely realized, the business of war had to be finished. The organizations the war had produced ended, one by one. The Ration Board closed in October, 1945, the Millburn Defense Council terminated in December; the "Township Tattle" brought out its last edition in November; the activities of the A. W. V. S. slowed and ceased.

Draft Board No. 2 closed in August, 1946, and the Millburn Citizens' Committee, a local equivalent of the USO, first headed by Mrs. Frederick Renard, disbanded in October, 1946. Sugar rationing, however, was not discontinued until June, 1947.

The Japanese surrender on August 14, 1945, brought an outbreak of hornblowing and other somewhat riotous activity in Millburn center, but otherwise the Township took it in its stride. Too many things had happened in too short a period?the death of President Roosevelt, Hitler's suicide, the breakup of the German Empire, the end of the European war, the dropping of the Atomic bomb?people were surfeited with world-shattering events, and a kind of numbness settled over their emotions, so that their gladness and relief could no longer find expression in wild outbursts of spontaneous celebrations.

The War Department's sad messages entered the Township for a year after the cessation of hostilities, bringing confirmation of deaths in long-ago battles. In December, 1945, Lt. Harold L. Stricker's crash over Italy many months before was reported; in January, 1946, came word of Corp. Rudolph Szman's death in action in the Phillipines a year before; hope for Lt. Arthur D. Jones, missing since September, 1944, was finally shattered in January, 1946, and not until July, 1946, was definite word received that John A. Coleman, R.M. 3/c had gone down with the submarine "Bonefish" in July, 1945. But, finally, the toll was complete.

A grateful government bestowed its honors and awards for conspicuous service and gallantry and many Millburn citizens were thus rewarded. The parents of George F. Gallion, who was one of the casualties of Corregidor although his death did not take place until some time afterward, received the Silver Star medal, the American Defense Service medal with bronze star, the Asiatic Pacific Theatre ribbon with bronze star, the World War II Victory medal, and a Presidential citation with two oak leaf clusters. The latter was bestowed for "gallantry in action from 11 to 20 December, 1941, when upon approach of enemy bombers he courageously maintained with his equipment and kept it under control despite enemy bombing."

The list of those known to have received honors and awards for unusual heroism is too long to be set out in full here, and many never divulged the story of their valor. The majority of the war heroes, living and dead, were products of Millburn's public and private elementary and high schools.

Help for the returning veterans was extended. The Millburn Business Loan Advisory Committee for Veterans, made up of Judge Frederic R. Colie, Morris Drapkin, M. C. Diedrich, and J. Herbert Woolley, spent many hours advising returning servicemen how to re-enter civilian life.

The American Legion took up the fight for veterans' housing, and in March, 1946, the first demand was formally made to the Township Committee. Eventually, 18 pre-fabricated single story units were erected on Millburn Avenue at Ridgewood Road, and in March, 1947, property on Millburn avenue, between Reeve Circle and Norwood terrace, was purchased to provide for the erection of 10 pre-fabricated dwellings.

The veterans who occupied these houses were selected, on the basis of greatest need, from 150 applying. These buildings were temporary houses and were removed gradually as housing became available elsewhere. The last one was removed in 1957.

A War Memorial in the form of a library to be erected on Millburn avenue across from St. Stephen's Cemetery, was proposed and a drive started for funds. However, this project was later abandoned and the money collected was turned over to help in the renovation of the old Temple B'nai Israel on Lackawanna place as the new public library. A veteran's memorial hall was incorporated as part of the new building.

Nor were the victims of war in foreign countries forgotten. A first Victory Clothing Collection was held in December, 1945, followed by later drives for used clothing, canned foods, and other commodities. Fats, paper, and tin continued scarce and were collected in salvage drives through 1946. In November, 1948, the High School adopted the town of Bergues, France, which had been 85% demolished, and through its collections aided in its restoration.

First food store advertisements after the war indicate the lightening of wartime burdens. "Lid's off and pre-war eating is here again" ran the headline of the Grand Union advertisement in the Item of August 23, 1945, and listed sirloin steaks back at 39¢ a pound. "Point-free values" proclaimed the A. & P. announcement, of its coffee at two pounds for 47 cents.

Gradually, the pressing problems of homelife clamored for attention and had to be resolved. Foremost among these problems was new housing, with its attendant burdens of new roads, sewers, school facilities, parking, street lighting, sanitation, fire-fighting, and policing. The greatest quantity of vacant land for further development lay in the northerly section of the Township, roughly bounded by Morris turnpike on the west, Great Hills road on the east, Hartshorn drive on the south, and Canoe Brook on the west, and expansion moved in that direction.

As early as August, 1945, an application was made to Planning Board to open about 70 acres on White Oak Ridge road, followed by the Prudential Insurance Company's project to lay out business and residential lots on Morris turnpike, and also between White Oak Ridge road and Canoe Brook road. Applications for building permits soared from about a half a million dollars worth of new buildings in 1945, to between six and seven millions in 1950.

Applications for multiple housing increased. After a controversy which raged for almost two years, zoning changes were made to permit the erection of garden apartments off Chatham road, and the cutting through of a new street to accommodate them. Other garden-type apartments were built, one a 128-unit building on Millburn avenue adjacent to St. Stephen's Cemetery, and another near Wyoming avenue, but prompt and effective zoning laws stopped the trend to apartment dwellings elsewhere.

The establishment of AA and A zones, and suburban A and B business zones, and the elimination of general residence B zones, under which six-family houses could have been erected; amendments to the building code, and the passing of an ordinance requiring minimum house foundation areas, foresightedly prevented overcrowding and a hodge podge of building styles.

The razing in 1945 of the old house on Millburn avenue at the northeast corner of Wyoming avenue, often mistakenly called the "Whittingham" house (actually it was originally the home of the Hand family, kinsmen of the Whittinghams), opened up several acres for development, and although an application for an apartment house there was turned down, an application by Lord & Taylor of New York to build a department store to cost a million dollars was entertained.

A committee headed by Stewart Hartshorn II sent out 3,500 postcards to residents seeking their opinion on the question of permitting the building of a store, and on receipt of over 2,000 affirmative signatures, permission was finally granted.

By August, 1948, it was noted that the greatest concentration of building in the history of Millburn was in progress on both sides of Millburn avenue, east of Wyoming avenue. Further expansion west of Wyoming avenue followed later.

Since the coming of Lord & Taylor's, several other New York and Newark stores have opened branches here. Based on a survey conducted several years ago, Millburn was found to be the hub of a circle having a 50-mile radius, within whose boundaries more wealth per capita could be found than in any other section of the metropolitan area, so that its possibilities as a retail shopping center were obvious.



In 1956, the largest of the new stores, B. Altman & Co. opened on Morris turnpike, on a historic spot, close to the old Minisink crossing of the Passaic River, where the Lenape Indians are supposed to have stopped to fish and rest before continuing their journey to the sea.

In this same area the large office building of Chubb & Son, insurance underwriters, was erected in 1951. Other small insurance offices have been built in the Township more recently.

With the razing of the "Hand-Wittingham" house, an old rumor died. Legend had it that under the mansion, tunnels and slave quarters of the "underground railway" of pre-Civil War days might be found. None were disclosed, however, and what might have been a romantic chapter in Millburn history did not materialize.

Another interesting old story appeared when the "Renwick" house at 140 Old Short Hills road changed hands in 1946. Then it was stated that one of the walls of the house rests on what was the dam of the gristmill where many of the first settlers had had their grain ground. Around that mill grew the little section known before the Revolution as "Spring Village" or "Spring Valley." Thus the stories of history constantly weave the old with the new.

Building of big stores, apartment dwellings, and office buildings, created more problems for the Township rulers. To prevent congestion at the center, Millburn avenue was made a one-way eastbound street and Essex street was cut through from Spring to Douglas street, and from Holmes street east to Millburn avenue, to provide one-way east-west routes through the business center. Parking meters, new parking lots, one-way streets, radar speed timing units, ordinances establishing minimum requirements of parking spaces around new buildings, and regulations signs and the general appearance of the business district, brought order out of what might have become a chaotic condition in the business center. Some of these improvements were self-supporting. Meter revenues brought in \$490.50 a month in the first eight months of their installation.

Less serious, but none the less annoying problems were considered and met. After a long campaign by the Millburn Item something was done about the mosquito. The Essex County Mosquito Commission had conducted a series of experiments along the Passaic River with the war-tested chemical DDT and when its efficacy was evident, the Township authorities agreed to provide a spraying machine for the community.

A DDT "fog" machine, mounted on a truck was demonstrated, but finally a pipe and blower type, known as an "aero-mist sprayer," on a truck-based turntable, was purchased for \$2,000 in 1947, and is still in use. It throws a 250-foot

horizontal, and a 120-foot vertical spray.

Millburn's historic elm at 298 Main Street, home of Tax Collector Mark Oliver, was sprayed with DDT as a Dutch-elm preventative measure. This sturdy old landmark, wounded in the War for Independence, has to date overcome all attacks by insects and disease, although many of the Township's other fine, but younger elms have gone down before the enemy.

New fire equipment, including a new pumper to replace the old pre-war one, and a second fire engine, together with the fine record of Millburn firemen, brought to Millburn a Class B rating from the National Fire Insurance Rating Organization. This is the highest rating which a municipality can receive which does not have complete, fulltime, paid personnel. Millburn has had only a few serious fires in recent years, and they have been confined almost entirely to stores or public buildings.

Up to 1957, no home had been completely destroyed in the Township since the spectacular burning of the Red Stone Inn in 1934. Pierce's Frozen Food Store on Chatham road in 1946, the nightclub, "The Brook" on Morris turnpike in 1947, the A. & P. store on Millburn avenue, and the Wyoming Presbyterian Church fires in 1956, were the most destructive fires in nearly 25 years. Other modern equipment including a 75-foot aerial truck have been procured and two new firehouses have been added to the community.

The vigilance of the Police Department is best attested to by the fact that news of serious crime in the Township is practically non-existent in these pre-centennial years. A few minor burglaries, a few cases of mischief, and traffic violations, make up most of the police blotter items which reach the daily or weekly newspapers.

Like the Fire Department, Millburn police have been provided with all available modern equipment, and their constant patrolling in two-way communication automobiles in the suburban areas as well as foot patrolling in the business districts, have been effective in preventing criminals from reaping a harvest in the community.

Soon after the war the Township acquired the most efficient type of sanitation trucks available, replacing the open, top-loading and unsanitary ones of earlier days. Ideas of sanitation had come a long way since the time when old Joe Briggs was Millburn-Short Hills' only garbage collector, and he was strictly a volunteer. He supported himself and dressed himself, it is said, from his scavenging and even built his own one-room house from the trash he collected.

Having no close space in his home, Joe wore all his clothing at once, one over

the other, even three or four hats having been taken care of thus handily. Regular garbage collections by the Township were inaugurated in 1910.

Miss Bessie Bosworth, sister of World War I casualty, Guy Bosworth, became Millburn's first fulltime health officer in 1948.

In the immediate post war years, Millburn lost two of its beloved citizens. On March 8, 1947, Miss Amelia Parks passed away at the age of 94 years. For many years of her life she had been a piano teacher, and little boys and girls of the Township in the early 1900's had learned their first scales and "Pieces" under her guidance. She had been St. Stephen's church organist for 55 years, and one of its Sunday School teachers and Altar Guild members for 75 years, missing, it is said, only three services.

Dr. Frank B. Jewett died in 1949. In his busy life, and while enjoying a fame which spread across the nation, as president of the National Academy of Sciences, vice president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., the recipient of many scientific awards and honors, he had found time to serve for 24 years as a member of the Millburn Board of Education as a Neighborhood House trustee, a Millburn Bank director, and in many other civic organizations. He was awarded posthumously the 1950 medal of the Industrial Research Institute.

Another Millburn benefactor, Edward S. Pettigrew, born here in 1867, died in 1951. His interest in landscaping, which he had developed as a hobby during his later life, was responsible for the fine shrubbery and plantings donated to some Millburn churches, St. Stephen's Cemetery, municipal parking lots, and other public areas. In July, 1952, the Edward S. Pettigrew Wading Pool in Taylor Park was presented to the Township by the Rotary Club and dedicated as a memorial to him.

Recreation, entertainment, and cultural activities began once more to occupy space in people's lives as they moved out from the deep shadows of war. Sunday baseball returned in 1946 and the new Athletic Field on Millburn Avenue was opened in 1948. The Millburn High School Football team achieved its first victory on its now field in September, 1949, when it met and conquered Union in an 18 to 12 score. Easter Egg hunts became an annual feature of the Recreation Department's Program, and the first game of the Little League Baseball Team was played in May, 1952.

The Millburn Short Hills Arts Center inaugurated its yearly sidewalk show in 1945 and sponsored the formation of the Village Chorus with W. Lindsay Smith its director and Louis Chivian its President.

In April, 1946, invitations were sent out to organize a Millburn Fourth of July

Committee. Frank Zwigard was Temporary Chairman, but a short time later a permanent organization was formed with Edward Heiss, Recreation Commissioner, its first President. On July 4, 1946, the first all-day program with evening fireworks was held in Taylor Park. That first day's programs has grown to the festival attended by many thousands now held each Independence Day, providing a circus, a full afternoon's entertainment for the children, and a dance and fireworks at the High School Stadium at night.

In 1951 a Community Concert Association was formed with John Fairfield, President, and for several years it brought to the High School auditorium such world-famous musicians, singers, and dancers as Leonard Rose, Caesare Siepi, Mata and Hari, Eugene Liszt, the Virtuosi diRoma, the DePaur Infantry Chorus, and the Robert Shaw Chorale group.

On the evening of December 2, 1948, 2,000 bulbs flashed on lighting the overhead Christmas garlands strung across the business district streets. The switch was turned by Millburn's senior businessman, Edward F. Lonergan, and George Pultz was chairman of that first occasion. The decorations have now become a feature of the holiday season.

Public School enrollment moved up from 2,061 in 1947 to 3,029 in 1956, and the guide for teachers' salaries set in 1947 at \$2,000 minimum to \$4,600 maximum, increased to a \$3,500-\$7,200 scale by 1955.

The school budget accompanied these changing figures? \$434,570 for 1945/6 to the \$1,917,000.00 appropriated in 1958. The new high school, one of the finest in the State, opened in 1956, is, of course, responsible for part of this increase. The old Hobart Avenue elementary school was reopened in 1952 after a thorough renovation which brought it up to modern standards of health, safety, and equipment.

The history of the Millburn schools, public and private, was told at length by Dr. Charles King and Headmaster Edward R. Kast in a previous chapter of this history, so that further details are omitted here.

Concurrent with these mounting school costs, the numbers of students on scholastic honor rolls and the percentage of boys and girls going on to higher education, 89% in 1958, and the amounts of scholarships awarded to graduates for high achievement, have increased also.

The Adult School, closed in 1942, resumed its classes in 1946 and its enrollment and variety of courses have expanded yearly ever since.

The tax rate has reflected some of this expansion? 4.47 in 1947, 4.96 in 1950, 6.05 in 1954, 7.52 in 1958.

Many thought that the "good old days" of severe winters had returned in 1948 when on New Year's Day of that year a 26-inch snow storm left 90% of the Township's homes without light or heat. Following that storm, 40 straight days of ice skating were enjoyed in Taylor Park, a record never since matched.

In that same year, in March, house deliveries of mail out of the Short Hills Post Office were inaugurated. House deliveries had been talked about and fought over since 1945, but old ways die hard, and three years had passed until all or most opposition had been removed, and all requirements imposed by the Government had been satisfactorily met.

The shadow of an uneasy peace has hung over the Township since the end of the second World War, and the peacetime draft has continued to call young men for a period of service.

The dampened fires flared briefly in the Korean action of 1950, and about 75 young men were sent to duty there. H. Duane St. John, Jr. and 1st Lt. Stephen J. Boyle were the first wounded, but there were no fatal casualties.

A Civilian Defense Council was reorganized in 1950 with Admiral Charles L. Austin, Director, and J. Herbert Woolley, Alfred J. Peer, Robert K. Hart, Col. Timothy Murphy, and Robert M. Morris, Board members. State Air Raid Tests were resumed and volunteers were sought for the Ground Observer Forces to man the post at Chatham. In October, 1950, Mrs. George B. Thomas and Mrs. A. M. Krueger, presented to the Township a United Nations flag made by the women of the Wyoming Church Guild.

The Township achieved several firsts in the early years of the 1950 decade:

its 1953 vote of 93.01% of the registered voters topped all other Essex County municipalities, and is undoubtedly one of the highest in the Country;

the highest percentage for the State of New Jersey as a whole reached only 88% in the record year of 1952;

Millburn was the first municipality in Essex County to utilize mercury lighting for its main streets; it set a County record of 100 pints of blood donated in its Blood Bank; the "Miller", the High School newspaper was awarded first place for the fourth time in 1952 by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, and Mrs. Robert H. Freeman was elected the first woman president of the Board of Education in October, 1952.

Another record was set in 1956 when Miss Averill C. Kiley, and Mrs. Anna H. McCollum completed between them 106 years of school teaching, 94 of which

were spent in the Millburn Public school system. A public ceremony was held in the High School to honor these two women following their resignations that year.

In Millburn's coming-of-age decades many of the small societies and clubs which had sprung up during the first period of expanding population, most overlapping each other in objects and membership, merged or disappeared, and in their places more substantial organizations took over the civic, political and philanthropic requirements of the community. The majority of these have been mentioned before. A few should be noted now:

The Millburn Scholastic Boosters every year helps needy boys and girls up to and through their higher education. Its funds come from the annual dues of its members.

International Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions Clubs have established active groups and contribute to various local needs.

A Chamber of Commerce promotes local business interests.

Money to finance the needs of Township social welfare and health agencies is now raised in two annual campaigns, the Red Cross Millburn Fund in the autumn, and the Millburn Township Health Fund in the spring.

Branches of two of the strongest and largest financial institutions in the State are located in the Township, the National State Bank and the Investors Savings and Loan Association.

In 1955, Mayor William B. Gero and the Township Committee, mindful of the fact that on March 20, 1957, Millburn Township would reach its 100th year as a municipality of the State of New Jersey, appointed A. Ross Meeker as chairman of a Centennial Committee to arrange a celebration.

The selection of Mr. Meeker was a wise choice. He is a lifelong resident of the Township and his family's name, as our previous installments have disclosed, has been associated with practically every major event in local history since pre-Revolutionary days. He has served on the Board of Education, as chairman of the Recreation Commission, and as chairman of innumerable civic enterprises.

Mr. Meeker's first committee consisted of George H. Bauer, Livingston T. Dickason, Mrs. Lewis R. Fay, Judge Milton Freiman, Edward F. Lonergan, Charles T. King, Mrs. Herbert Marshall Jr., and Charles E. Paulson. This main committee was later expanded to include John D. Clark, Heroy Dyckman, William H. Lippincott, Mrs. Max W. Meisner, Marshall Posey, Fred W. Smith,

and Theodore D. Widmayer.

As the needs arose, sub-committees were appointed and acting in the capacities stated were John A. Cairns, Barbecue Committee Chairman, Dr. Abraham Burack, Photography chairman, Mrs. Hibbert A. Broadfoot, Concert Committee Chairman, Leon M. Hirsch, Decorations Chairman, Mrs. Erina Murray, Exhibits Chairman, Mrs. Franklin Deuel, Store Windows Decorations Committee Chairman, Arthur V. Wynne, Chairman, Recreation House Dedication Committee, and William Sherman Greene Jr., White Oak Ridge Park Dedication Committee Chairman.

It would be impossible to describe the work of all who helped in the celebration, including not only committee members, and the various subcommittees, but members of the Township governing bodies, Police and Fire Departments, the Recreation Department, the Public Library staff, school faculties and principals, the children of the community, clergymen, the Millburn and Short Hills Item staff, the Junior Service League, the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Chamber of Commerce, the Millburn and Short Hills Arts Center, and innumerable private citizens.

A detailed coordination and report of all activities of the Millburn Centennial prepared by the Official Historian is on file at the Millburn Public Library, and in the Town Hall.

Gradually, the form of the celebration took shape. The publication of a Centennial history book, a parade, barbecue, exhibitions, plays or pageants by the school children, decorations for the business districts, and special church services, were the main features decided upon by the Committee, and the week of May 19, 1957, was designated as Centennial Week, as the actual date of Millburn's incorporation, March 20th, was considered to be too early in the season for any outdoor activities.

The first objective was perceived by Mr. Meeker and his committee was to assemble materials for his history, and at first this task seemed to be of Herculean proportions. No nucleus of materials was available anywhere, and whatever photographs were presumed to be in existence were scattered among individuals or newspapers over a wide area. Libraries, historical societies, and the State records at Trenton had to be painstakingly combed for whatever data they might yield. Mr. Dickason initiated the work of gathering this material together and worked practically daily for nearly two years on this task. Later, aided by Mr. Posey and a committee, over 500 pictures, old letters, newspapers, timetables, entertainment programs, maps and other pertinent documents were collected, and everything was photographed or rephotographed so as to be suitable for reproduction in the book. In addition, Mr. Posey and Dr. Abraham Burack, took many photographs of contemporary local scenes. Outside of the professional artwork and layout, and the actual

printing, all the work of preparing and writing the book was done on a free and volunteer basis. As a means of underwriting the cost of the book, sponsor-subscribers were sought, and 867 persons responded to the appeal for donations of \$10.00 each.

The Centennial Celebration began with services in all of the houses of worship in the community. The children of St. Rose of Lima School, the Millburn elementary schools, and the High School presented pageants depicting various phases of the Township history.

Exhibitions of old Millburn relics and of paintings by local artists were held in the newly enlarged and renovated Recreation House which was rededicated on May 20, 1957. During Centennial Week also, exhibits prepared by Millburn school children were on display in the Recreation House. The exhibits include many models of bygone days, mills, Indian life, railroads, schools, trading posts, and old houses.

On May 23rd the White Oak Ridge Park was formally dedicated, and on May 24th a concert was given in the auditorium of the High School, in which the Junior High Orchestra, the Millburn-Short Hills Chorus, the Senior High School combined chorus, and soloist, Lynn Kleinberger, pianist, and Eileen Schauler, soprano, both former graduates of Millburn High School, now professionals, took part.

Commencing on May 1st, 99% of all stores and business houses of the Township were appropriately decorated with red, white, and blue bunting, surrounding the Millburn Centennial Emblem which consisted of two motifs enclosed in an hour-glass form, one depicting an old mill with waterwheel, and the other the facade of the new Millburn High School, with the words "A Century of Township Progress." The emblem was designed by members of Troop No. 2, Millburn Girl Scouts.

Store windows carried displays of enlarged photographs of old Millburn, and other historical objects, and the local post-offices cancelled all mail during Centennial Week with a "Millburn Centennial 1857-1957" cancellation stamp. The Chamber of Commerce, after a spirited contest among High School girls, elected Barbara Bridges its Centennial Queen.

Starting on February 18, 1975, and continuing until the celebration was concluded, the Millburn branch of the National State Bank displayed in a glass showcase various exhibits from the past and present, including the Parkhurst family china, the Edwin F. Bitter gun collection, Whittingham family heirlooms, objects from "Redstone" the fabulous 19th century home of the William Ingraham Russell family, various facets of the "New Eyes for the Needy" projects, and other interesting Township memorabilia.



On Saturday, May 25, members of the Millburn Centennial Committee, chairmen of all sub-committees, Township clergymen, representatives of adjoining municipalities, and guests of honor, met at Short Hills Club for a Centennial Luncheon. Guests of honor included New Jersey Governor Robert B. Meyner, Congressman Robert Winthrop Kean, Essex County Senator Donal Fox, Essex County Prosecutor Charles W. Webb Jr., and distinguished local citizens including Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderbilt of the New Jersey Supreme Court, Superior Court Judge Frederic R. Colie, and United States District Court Judge Reynier J. Wortendyke. Superior Court Judge G. Dixon Speakman, who had recently died, was represented by his widow, Jane Speakman.

Following the luncheon came one of the highlights of the celebration, the two-hour parade, for which Parade Chairman, Judge Milton Freiman, and his committee, had been preparing for a year. Edward F. Lonergan was honorary grand marshal of the parade and his aides were James Tighe and John McCollum. In the line of march were floats, foot marchers, drum and bugle corps, the Centennial Queen and her attendants, antique automobiles, school bands, Millburn Fire and Police personnel, old and new fire equipment, haggpipers, an oldtime calliope, horse-riding groups, military units, and wheelmen, including Don Palmer on a highwheeled antique bicycle, commemorating the past glory of Millburn's annual bicycle races.

A Texas barbecue, in Taylor Park after the parade completed the Centennial Celebration. The barbecue was prepared and served by a company from Fort Worth, Texas, out of chuck wagons Western style, and featured pit-cooked barbecued beef with hickory gravy, smoked ranch style beans, country style potato salad, Texas cold slam, sliced dill pickles, and onions, hot sour dough biscuits, Western apples, hot coffee and lemonade. Nearly 5,000 people attended, and a "Hill-billy" band accompanied the festivities throughout the remainder of the day.

But at last it was over; the last plate of Texas barbecued beef had been eaten; the last words had been said; the last straggler had left Taylor Park. Millburn Township, cheered and feted by thousands of its citizens had officially passed the century line.

Histories, of course, never end. The current event of today becomes the history of tomorrow, and the record brought up-to-date by one human hand soon becomes a part of the past which another's pen will set down as a tale of long ago. In concluding this long history of one town, we are convinced that the conclusion reached when we began our story more than a year and a half ago still stands as true and we repeat it herewith:

History is the story of man and the times in which he lived. The impact of one

on the other produces the recorded events which are the milestones along the road leading from yesterday to tomorrow. We have attempted to show the road along which we have come to the year 1957 by telling of the people who have journeyed before us, molded by the times in which they lived, mostly subject to those times, sometimes dominating them, but always moving, shaping, creating the events which have been recorded, and never free of the consequences of their own actions.

We wish it had been possible to name all of the citizens of the Township who have achieved recognition beyond the confines of their home town, but because of the possibility of omitting one, it was thought better to include only those persons who have in some way or other contributed to the building of the community.

However, in the long months of research which have gone into the compilation of Millburn's history, one fact has become increasingly clear to the author, and that is, that no man, however humble, walks the earth without leaving some trade of his steps behind him, and those steps seemingly dim and shallow become deep and meaningful as the light of history shines upon them.

If Stephen Parkhurst, or Thomas Smith, or Nicholas Parsil, had moved from Elizabeth to Millburn in 1957 hardly anyone would have been aware of his coming, and he probably would have become another commuter to the city, moving like thousands of others in a daily routine, unimportant, except to himself and his family. However, a hundred years from now, the pattern of life in 1957 will be clearly perceived, and the changes the commuter's daily round wrought in the lives of Americans of the 20th century may stand out like beacons pointing the way to the next turn in the road.

One hundred years is not a long time for a community to have had a corporate existence, but behind that legal life were one hundred and fifty or more years of learning to live together in harmony and cooperation. We believe the record shows that the Township has grown ever wiser in administering to the needs of its people; in planning for the future of today's children, and in preparing the groundwork, as best the human minds and hands who give it life, can make ready, for the hundred years which lie ahead.

## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

An intimate survey of community life in Millburn Township in the first decade of its 2nd century

### PROLOGUE (to 1957-1975 MILLBURN HISTORY)

On March 20, 1957, Millburn Township reached its 100th birthday as a municipality of the State of New Jersey. Its historical significance, told in the first part of this History, extended back more than 250 years before that date, and the record shows that it had matured satisfactorily.

Honorable leaders, concerned citizenry, and interested young people all had joined in the 1957 Centennial Celebration, described in Chapter XX, and during every day of the Centennial Week, starting May 19th, activities became a lasting memorial. The date, May 19th, was selected to provide better weather conditions than the week in March might have provided.

The Statute of 1857 achieved the separation of Springfield and Millburn, and the establishment of a corporate entity for Millburn Township, but the actual community life had gone back to the beginning of the 18th Century.

Its own Post Office was one of the bonuses accruing by the incorporation of Millburn as a separate political being. No post office facilities were available at all until 1801. Prior to that year, a stage coach, once or sometimes twice a week, left mail at the corners, now Millburn Center, and at the Springfield Center.

Millburn was usually referred to as "the country behind Springfield." Old maps show roads approaching it from New Ark to approximately the present corner of Millburn Avenue and Main Street, and the center was obvious on the maps. Mail was usually left at Aaron Hand's tavern at the northwest corner.

Early graves which still may be identified in the Springfield Presbyterian Church Cemetery are among others, Stephen Woodruff's, 1789, Isaac Denman, 1781, and Nathaniel Dickenson, 1795.

A gravestone in the Springfield Cemetery, a rubbing of which was supplied recently\*, reads:

"In memory of Thomas Marr of Thistle Mill. He died Aug. the 13th 1791, aged 26 years.



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also, "Charles, the son of Charles Marr of Thistle Mill died Octr ye 19th, 1792, aged 2 years."

The inscription not only identifies two people of the community, but also presents another verification of the existence of Thistle Mill at that early date.

Most burials were in the cemetery at Springfield, although a few were in Elizabeth in the Presbyterian Churchyard there.

Among other old Millburn names appearing in the Springfield Churchyard are:

Stephen Woodruff 1789 Isaac Denman 1781 Nathaniel Dickenson 1795

The average age appears to be about 42, although Matthias Denman lived to be 90, and John Tucker, 79.

A. Ross Meeker, a descendant of Timothy Meeker, who had settled here soon after 1699 was the Chairman of the 1957 Centennial observance.

The Centennial, Celebrated throughout the week of May 19, 1957, chairmanned by A. Ross Meeker, in seven days of celebration, provided a variety of entertainment presented by all schools, most organizations and associations, and many citizens working with Mr. Meeker. The week chosen provided seven days of perfect weather.

The goals to which the community was moving were good government, the preservation of community beauty, good education, through a healthy support of its schools, both public and private, and a new tolerance and diversity of religious affiliations among the citizens.

\*The rubbing of the cemetery stone was supplied to the author by Brian Holmes of Short Hills, a senior of Millburn High School (1976). 1958-1967

**Click below to view that year's details:**

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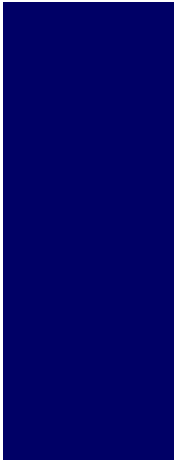
[1969](#)

[1961](#)

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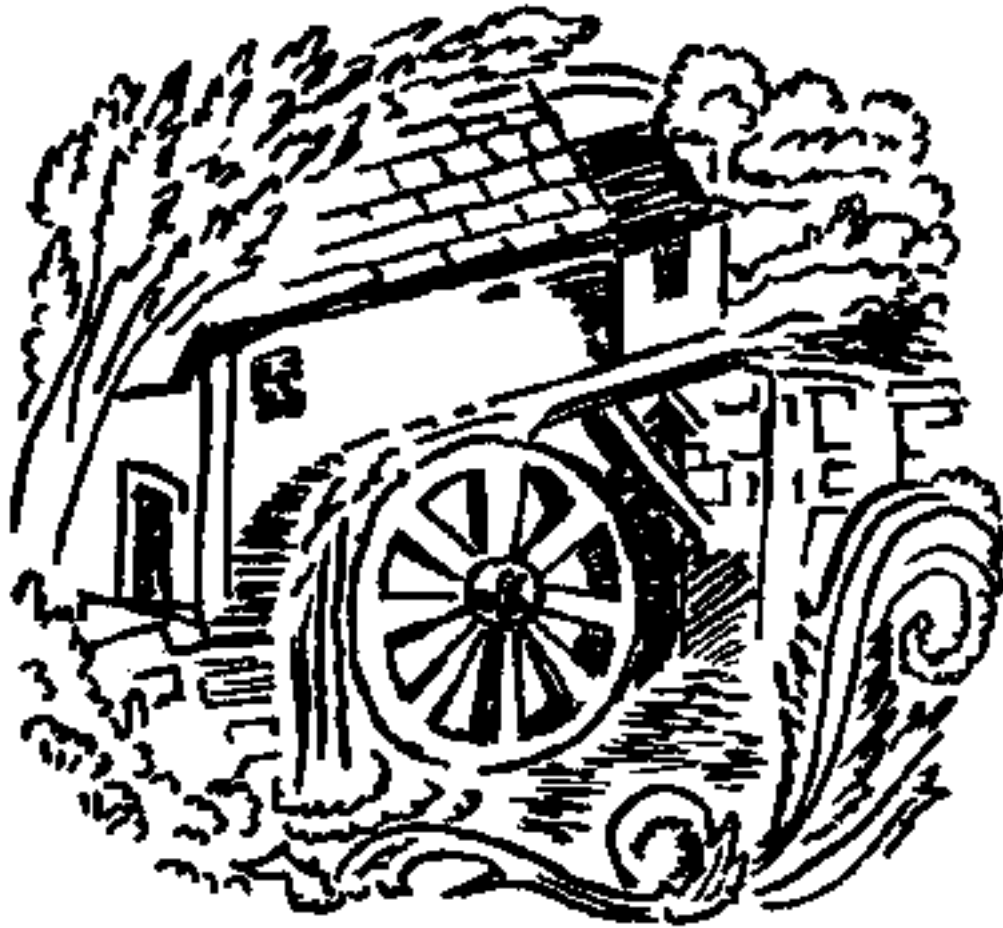


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## A History of Millburn Township »»»

by Marian Meisner

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## **CHAPTER XXI.**

### **1958-1976**

#### **1958**

Millburn Township, now a Centenarian, emerged into its mature life assisted by a responsible government, and an aware citizenry, its natural beauty a constant delight to its inhabitants.

In 1958, Millburn lost two citizens who had made incalculable contributions to its culture and education:

One, Miss Antoinette Scudder, died on January 26th. Miss Scudder with Frank Carrington, founded the Paper Mill Playhouse more than 35 years ago. She had been active on its Board and in its management until her death.

The other citizen, Miss Cora Hartshorn, died on October 17th. Miss Hartshorn made to Millburn Township the incalculable gift of the Arboretum and its influence on Millburn life into the foreseeable future.

"The Miller", Millburn High School Scholastic Journal, prepared and represented by students, received third place award in the New Jersey Scholastic Press Association newspapers.

John W. Pritchard was named Township assistant. In that position Mr. Pritchard would act as Assistant in the management of the business operations of the Township.

The Millburn Short Hills Volunteer First Aid Squad opened its first Drive for funds in January, with Mrs. Charles Eddy, Chairman. The goal of \$10,000.00 was set to provide funds for the purchase of equipment and operating expenses. The Junior League made a donation of \$2,000.00 for other important equipment.

Stormy weather assumed its own leadership of Millburn life. A 13-inch snow storm fell throughout the weekend of February 15-16 and into Monday, and a following 20-inch storm fell in a two-day short-lived assault in early March.

Bonwit Teller started construction of a department store at the new Short Hills Mall, to be part of the 50 acre development started in 1954.

Changes in Township personnel appeared:



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Mark Oliver was appointed Tax Collector and Carlisle C. Cahill retired as Postmaster on March 31st after 23 years of service.

The homing place for mail for many Millburn residents was changed in April from Maplewood to Millburn.

The merger of the Junior League of Short Hills with the Junior League of the Oranges was accomplished, to be hereafter known as the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills.

On May 11th 5 million gallons of water rushed through a broken main. An 8-foot crater formed at the corner of Glen Avenue and Sagamore Road holding back any human assault for a short time.

The summer playgrounds opened at Taylor Park, Glenwood School, Slayton Field, and South Mountain School, and at White Oak Ridge Park. More than 300 children participated in the activities.

A manhunt for an armed man was entered into by 50 police from Millburn, Livingston, and Essex County Park patrol. After a day and night search mostly in the woods near the East Orange Golf course, the man, bruised, hungry, and exhausted, finally surrendered after a 50-hour day and night search.

A. Ross Meeker formed a Swimming Pool Study Committee and a hunt for possible sites was inaugurated.

Property at the corner of Chatham Road and Baltusrol Way was purchased for future parking.

242 graduates from Millburn High School in June wore caps and gowns at the ceremony for the first time.

The First Annual Fishing Derby was held in Taylor Park on Labor Day. Forty fish were caught in the contest. Neither weights nor catchers' names are now available.

In September, Millburn Public School enrollment set a new record of 3358 students. Good planning saw the completion of the Hartshorn School in time to accommodate the new numbers of children who were ready for school. Dr. Lester B. Ball was Superintendent of Schools.

Frank B. Lincoln, Jr. of Short Hills was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of Defense.

The New York Port Authority evinced its interest in the site of the Great Swamp in Morris County as a Jet Airport Site. The Township Committee of Millburn sent a resolution to Governor Robert B. Meyner outlining its opposition to the airfield.

Throughout Suburban New Jersey petitions were circulated in the hope that the airport would be constructed in another area, and eventually the proposal for an airport site in this vicinity was dropped.

Dr. Lester B. Ball, according to an editorial in the Item, (9/11/58) commented on the year's record enrollment and made it clear that Millburn in 1958-9 was "in as good physical plant condition as any school system in the State."

The Item in the same issue, commenting on anticipated school expansion wrote:

"Population trends will be watched closely in order to anticipate properly future school plant needs. Indications are that within the next few years we will need an addition to the high school, a seventh elementary school in the Deerfield area, and perhaps a second junior high school. ... The scheduling of plant expansion is a very important consideration, but judging by past performance the Board of Education is well aware of its duties and responsibilities in this regard."

Another editorial in the Item on the same day evokes today a memory of a long past fear:

"Fresh cases of polio this summer remind us that this enemy has not been completely conquered. Thousands of victims will long need treatment and rehabilitation. The Sister Kenny Institute ... has played a prominent role in the fight in New Jersey, but has not yet let up. ..."

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1959

William S. Gero, re-elected Chairman, William F. Mullen, Vice Chairman, Everett Vilette sworn in as member, and Board of Health representative, Ralph F. Batch, and Joseph Ward III. Later Joseph Ward III resigned and Mr. Gero filled in the unexpired term.

34 Millburn High School juniors received distinguished scores in the Scholastic Qualifications examinations, giving them the privilege of receiving early college acceptances.

Three new fire Captains were appointed?Vincent C. Tighe, Philip S. Ross, and Raymond Partington.

The tax rate rose 26 points to 7.79.

Only 20% of Millburn voters went to the polls in the primary election.

"The Miller," Millburn High School paper was judged to be the best in the State by the Scholastic Press Association of New Jersey.

A Millburn family?the R. T. Davis family of Ferncliff Terrace, Short Hills, was selected as a typical suburban family and was named to represent the United States at the American National Exchange in Moscow.

A new County road\* from Morris Turnpike to Parsonage Hill Road was completed recently, with the possibility of its being continued to Northfield Center (now Livingston) in 1960 or 1961.

The 1959 tax rate was set at 7.56, up 5 points. Municipal \*now Kennedy Parkway expenditures in the Budget of 1959 were established at \$2,228,320.00.

The police blotter on January 18, 1959, showed 15 speeders and 2 careless drivers apprehended during the week.

A deer problem was brought up before the Township Committee. Nightly visits of herds as large as 30 animals menaced property. The East Orange Water Reserve was asked to fence in their herds. Mayor Gero said that the deer problem is actually a State problem.



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Roy F. Duke of Short Hills was one of three recipients of 1958 Brotherhood Medals of the National Conference of Christian and Jews. Each year medals are bestowed on one Protestant, one Catholic, and one Jewish person.

On January 28, 1959, at a Township meeting, walking paths were proposed as follows:

Old Short Hills Road from Millburn Center to Great Hills Road;

Morris Turnpike from Farley Place to Timber Acres Road;

Parsonage Hill Road from Old Short Hills Road to Hartshorn Drive; and, if possible, to White Oak Ridge Road;

On February 25, 1959, Ralph Batch was sworn in as a member of the Township Committee to fill the unexpired term of Joseph Ward III.

The local tax rate for 1959 was established at 7.81.

Seven High School students passed the finals of the 1958-1959 National Merit Scholarship Program, and have been awarded Certificates of Merit. Receiving the honors represented by the awards were: Charles Baker, John Chester, Gregory Hammerstein, Perry Krugman, Robert Ratner, Margaret Sinclair, and David Wollstadt.

A great forward step in halting and preventing the spread of Infantile Paralysis was reached when the Salk Shots were perfected and at last obtainable for use here. To date inoculations have not reached 100% of children, but an urgent appeal was made to bring 100% of the children into the program.

The most costly fire in Millburn recorded history occurred at the end of March. The loss is set at half a million dollars. Two stores and office building at 321 Millburn Avenue were involved on Friday night, March 30th. The fire evidently started in Woolworth's and was discovered by Patrolman John Yannotta and Frank Millbauer at 10:08 p.m. Two other alarms were subsequently sent in. Eventually every piece of available equipment was brought into service; 30 regular firemen and 40 volunteers worked most of the night. Four pumpers were in operation and help from Maplewood arrived early. The fire was considered to be under control at about 11 a.m., but was not completely extinguished until 3:30 p.m. Snow fell for several hours during the storm and hampered men on roofs.

The building then known generally as "the Woolworth building" was rebuilt as soon as possible. As of 1976 the store occupying the entire first floor is known

as "The Variety Fair of Millburn."

The Red Cross-Millburn Fund of 1959 Collection brought in \$70,308.00. Twelve High School students were semi-finalists in the 1959-1960 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Participated in by over a half a million students in the United States. Students were Sara Adams, Howard Barbarosch, Stephen Baron, David Bernstein, Eric Chivian, Jane DunLeavy, Stephanie Flicker, William Hait, Alice Jones, Marc Lappe, Sarah Levin, and Eric Lob.

A. Ross Meeker outlined the Swimming Pool situation. The High School location was no longer available. However, he suggested that the property between the Arch and the Glenwood School might be feasible.

It was announced that the Prudential Shopping Center (now known as "The Mall at Short Hills"), may be completed by March, 1961. The development of over 50 acres started in 1954, was becoming known as "The Best in the Country", "The Fifth Avenue of New Jersey.'

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1960

William F. Mullins, Fred E. Borchert, Jr., William B. Gero, Mayor, Ralph H. Batch, and Everett W. Vilett, Committeemen.

The 1960 Decade was marked by achievements in education, recreation, and philanthropy, through the actions of both the governing body and citizens' cooperation.

The largest sum ever raised to date, by volunteers for the Red Cross-Millburn Fund was announced. Contributions totaling \$66,677.00 were collected and shared by the Red Cross, Boy and Girl Scouts, Neighborhood House, and other local philanthropic organizations. It was the largest sum, to date, ever raised by volunteers. However, the total did fall 5% short of its goal of \$70,000.00.

The Community Health Fund collected over-quota contributions for County organizations working here, including The Heart Association of Essex County, Cerebral Palsy Center of Essex, Retarded Children's Association, and the Arthritis Foundation. The goal of \$37,500.00 was attained.

In 1975 one Annual Drive collected by the Millburn-Short Hills Community Fund combines nine agencies in its objective, including American Red Cross, Arthritis Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts Council, Cerebral Palsy Association, Mental Health Association, Millburn Neighborhood Association, the Association for Retarded Children, and the Heart Association. A total of \$126,753.00 was raised in 1974.

A few other organizations including American Cancer Society, and the Volunteer First Aid Squad, conduct separate Township Drives within statutory limitations.

A new teachers' salary guide was prepared by the Board of Education with a scale ranging from \$4,500.00 to \$9,000.00 a year.

Plans were announced for the construction of a 12-room elementary school on Silver Spring Road, which would be called the Deerfield School, and for additions to the Junior and Senior High Schools.

It was predicted that the construction of the new school and the additions to



Print

the Senior and Junior High Schools would satisfy Township needs for a long time. The prediction was based on the preliminary findings of Dr. Henry W. Linn, the Township Board of Education Consultant on Future Building Needs; a Township census conducted by the Parent Teachers Association, and a projection of Township maximum growth as plotted by Levi Price, Township Engineer.

Fourteen inches of snow arrived on the third day of March causing nine minor automobile accidents and a practically 24-hour work shift which called out all Township road employees.

Eric Chivian was named Valedictorian of the High School Class of 1960, and for the first time in its history, three students tied for the position of Salutatorian, namely: Sara Adams, Douglas Fields, and Mary Wearn. Also, 11 seniors were finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Corporation Program, and were awarded certificates of merit.

Peter A. Konde, a Millburn Senior, won first place and a scholarship in a Statewide competition test in chemistry, at the 10th annual State Science Day.

The Board of Adjustment held a hearing attended by a large and vociferous crowd, most protesting the construction of a 36-lane bowling alley on Springfield Avenue behind oval Road. The hearing was carried over to the Board's March meeting when the Board heard four and a half hours of testimony, most of it opposing. The Board reserved its decision until April, and in April the application was turned down by a vote of 2 to 1.

Another equally emphatic hearing on an application for a 64-lane alley, at another location on Springfield Avenue, came before the Board. The hearing was again adjourned, until a may date, when the Board suggested a reduction in size to a 48-lane alley. Again a bowling alley did not materialize.

A local controversy arose when the State Highway Department announced that plans were being formulated for the realignment and reconstruction of Route 24 (Morris Turnpike). Plans called for a six-lane divided highway with parallel service roads on either side for local traffic. The change would mean, according to the announced reports, that Millburn would suffer a loss of at least thirty houses which would be required to be removed, 48 acres of land, and an estimated \$1,500,000 in ratables as a result of the proposed widening and realignment of the Route. A standing room only crowd attended the hearing most of whom vociferously opposed the change.

A fire in the Junior High School caused damages amounting to about \$5,000.00 to the school's electrical equipment. The school was not in session at the time and no pupils were injured or in danger.

The Fire Captain Edward J. O'Brien rescued Nicholas McCormick 100 feet down on the face of the cliff of the old quarry in the South Mountain Reservation, facing the Millburn Railroad Station. That trip was Captain O'Brien's third trip over the edge of the cliff to attach ropes to climbers so that they might be helped back to safety. All were successful.

The Millburn Short Hills First Aid Squad purchased and equipped a second ambulance.

Leonard G. Blessing, Science Teacher at Millburn High School, was the American selected by the Board of Foreign Scholarships to act as exchange teacher in the Newall Green Secondary School, Manchester, England. Coming in his place to Millburn High School from England was Miss Minnie Turner.

The Millburn Short Hills Chamber of Commerce began a Township survey covering preferences for the location of the swimming pool to be built here. A majority at that time favored the Millburn High School site. But the question went on.

In July, the Planning Board in a special report advocated the construction of two municipal pools, one, on the High School site; the other, to be built approximately in the center of the White Oak Ridge Park.

However, in September, Mayor Gero announced that the swimming pool would be definitely located in White Oak Ridge Park, but two sites there were still being considered. The Mayor said that every effort would be made to have the pool ready for the next season.

At last, in October, the Township Committee approved an ordinance appropriating \$250,000.00 for the building of the pool and its facilities.

It was reported then that the pool would be constructed near the tennis courts and although some opposition was entered by nearby residents, the Township Committee held that the location near the tennis courts was the only economical position to be considered, and that was the final position as to location.

on the first Monday of classes in September, the school enrollment was 3,594, an increase of 114 over the corresponding day a year ago.

The flag was raised for the first time at the Hartshorn School at its opening on September 4th.

Hurricane Donna struck in September and many homes in the Township were



without electricity for 48 hours.

Burglaries of nine Township homes during the summer months were solved by the arrest of two burglars in New York City who pleaded guilty. Another man arrested by Millburn Police was suspected of taking part in numerous Essex County larcenies with a total loot of \$100,000.

William M. Barr, Director of Millburn Adult School, took office as President of the New Jersey Association for Adult Education.

Six Millburn High School seniors were named as semifinalists in the 1960-1 National Merit Scholarship Competition. They were David Burt, Steven Golden, George Herzlinger, Dale Jelley, Grove Thompson and Richard Wearn.

Rev. Henry B. Strock was called from Newcastle, Pennsylvania, by Wyoming Presbyterian Church to become its new Pastor.

The Board of Education released architects' renderings of additions to the Junior and Senior High Schools, and the new Deerfield program, at a cost of \$2,850,000.00.

Lt. F. Warren Rimback retired from the Police Department completing 25 years of service with the Force.

Millburn's Fire Chief, J. David Hayes, announced his decision to retire at the end of the year. He had spent 42 years with the Department, the last 29 years as its Chief. A Testimonial Dinner, attended by 200 persons, to honor Chief Hayes, was given to him two weeks after his announcement.

John J. Partington was appointed Acting Chief of the Fire Department.

The worst pre-winter snow in written records struck on December 11th and 12th. The storm deposited 20 inches of snow, accompanied by gale force winds, bringing almost all activities in the Township to an abrupt halt.

An announcement was received from Congregation B'nai Jeshurun of Newark, that it was negotiating for the purchase of 20 acres here. B'nai Jeshurun is the oldest and largest Jewish Congregation in the State.

The final figure of the Census Bureau for Millburn population was given as 18,799.

Donald M. Hicks of Highland Avenue was inducted as President of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

H. Charles Hess of Briarwood Drive was elected President of the Millburn Short Hills Volunteer First Aid Squad. The Squad was the recipient of the second annual B'nai Brith Humanitarian Award.

U.S. Senator Clifford Case led all candidates on the voting machines here to serve another term in the United States Senate.

Samuel C. Williams, Jr. was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Millburn Public Library succeeding the late Erwin O. Gerhardt.

William F. Mullins and Fred E. Borchert, Jr. ended six years as members of the Township Committee. They were not candidates for re-election.

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1961

1961 TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: Ralph F. Batch, Police Commissioner and Vice Chairman of Committee; William B. Gero, Mayor, Chairman, Department of Streets and Sewers; William O. Heilman, Fire Commission; John T. Kelly, Jr. Chairman Department of Buildings and Lights; Everett W. Vilett, Chairman, Department of Law and Finance.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, in January, named Milford A. Vieser of Short Hills, to membership on the 7-man National New Jersey Tercentenary Committee.

Inevitable retirements and appointments wrought changes in public life. Robert E. Faddis retired as principal of Millburn High School and was succeeded by Carl Salsbury. John J. Partington was appointed Chief of the Millburn Fire Department. Mr. Partington had held the position of Acting Chief since the retirement of J. David Hayes.

In that same month, the New Jersey Supreme Court appointed Judge Milton Freiman to the Chairmanship of the New Jersey Municipal Court Committee. The Committee serves in an advisory capacity to that Court and all municipal magistrates. Since 1961 Judge Freiman has been a special lecturer on "Principles of Municipal Administration" at Rutgers University Extension Division. This course is given three times a year for lawyers, law clerks, and Court personnel.

The Township announced an estimated 69 points rise in the tax rate of 1961, from 6.73 to 7.42. Later, the 1961 Budget was established and the tax rate of 7.42 was established. By a 2.5 to 1 margin the Township voters approved a School Bond issue of \$2,850,000.00. Funds were for the construction of the Deerfield School and additions to the Junior and Senior High Schools.

Out of approximately 11,000 registered voters, less than 1,500 went to the polls for the special election of approval of the School Bond Issue.

February: 20 inches of snow dumped on the Township streets established a record. This was the third big snow storm of the winter.

The Board of Education announced in February that an extra day's session had been necessitated for the schools, caused by the forced closings of schools on several occasions that year because of snow. The extra day was



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established as June 22nd.

Six seniors of Millburn High School were named as finalists in the 1960-1 National Merit Scholars. Included were David Burt, Steven Golden, Dale Jelley, George Herzlinger, Grove Thompson and Richard A. Wearn. Steven Golden was Valedictorian of his Senior Class.

25 awards of Merit and 10 Honorable Mentions were given to students in the Related Arts of Junior High School. Their work was displayed at the New Jersey Vocational Arts and Education Association Convention in Trenton.

The Millburn Inn, on Old Short Hills Road, just north of the railroad was finally razed. The Inn had been a landmark of the Township. It was known historically as "The Brison House", built very early in the 19th century by David Brison. Mr. Brison at one time had owned all the land bounded roughly (and using present names) by the Crescent, the Railroad, Hobart Avenue, and Old Short Hills Road.

In the 20th century, the house had been converted to an inn, "The Brison Inn", and became a charming and well patronized restaurant with excellent "home style" meals at reasonable prices.

The Junior High School now occupies part of the Brison home property and the rest is used as a parking lot.

The land on which the Inn stood in the 20th century was the high point of land below which the Battle of Springfield was stopped in 1780. It can be pictured now as gently rising meadowland, moving up from the center of the village to the higher land beyond Hobart Avenue (present names). Refugees from Springfield as well as from the (present) Millburn sought refuge there carrying babies, a meagre supply of their more precious household possessions, and whatever food was still available to them. They camped there for several days until it was considered safe to return to their homes. However, all but four Springfield houses had been burned by the departing enemy. The skirmish was one of the last in New Jersey. The War turned southward and came to an end about three years later at Yorktown.

The Cora Hartshorn Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary located on the 16.45 acre tract owned by Miss Hartshorn on Forest Drive was Willed to the Township under Miss Cora's Will. Miss Hartshorn had died on October 18, 1958. On March 23, 1961, Mayor Gero called a meeting in Taylor Park to which were invited all interested persons and groups in forming an Arboretum Association. A Consti- tution was approved and 20 Trustees were elected.

The initial renovation of the Stone House was made possible by a donation of

\$10,000 from the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills, \$8,000.00 to renovate the Stone House and an additional \$2,000.00 to inaugurate an Educational and Enrichment Program.

The building known as "The Arboretum" for which Bernhardt Mueller of Short Hills was the architect, is a handsome stone building built for Miss Hartshorn and completed in 1933 as described in a former chapter of this History. Built of stone quarried here, with rafters and wood, supplied by local Hartshorn trees, it represents a completely local product in every way.

Substantial initial donations were also made by the Millburn Women's Club and the National State Bank. The Township of Millburn is the legal owner of the property, but the Board of Recreation Commission and the Shade Tree Commission had assumed responsibility for maintenance and services. The Corporation, "The Cora Hartshorn Association and Bird Sanctuary" supervises the planning, development, and programming of the Center to serve community interests. Membership fees, lectures, and planned programs also provide funds, at modest prices, for special projects and for needed changes and improvements.

The Center has excellent use by schools, adults, and Township organizations. Through its use, many school children have received knowledge and appreciation of the importance of Nature's contributions to our lives.

The first President of the Arboretum was Frederic R. Colie, a Judge of the New Jersey Superior Court. Judge Colie was not only learned in the law, but his avocation was Nature in many aspects. Although the Law was Judge Colie's first occupation, fresh and salt water fishing, was his second. His broad knowledge of small animals, birds, and growing things added to the dimensions of his interest.

The cornerstone of the new Church House of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church was laid on June 11th

In August the Township Committee eliminated the household personal property tax, and also announced that the tax rate would be calculated on 50% of the assessed value rather than 30%.

In September, the Township Public Schools opened with a record enrollment of 3,676 an increase of 83 over last year.

The Recreation Commission established \$50.00 a year for family membership in the Municipal Swimming Pool and would begin seeking applications. The Recreation Department had had the most active summer in the Department's History to date.

In September, a lack of sufficient bids for the construction of the swimming pool forced the Township Committee to readvertise for bids. However, A. Ross Meeker, President of the Recreation Commission, said that hopefully the readvertisement would not delay the early summer opening in 1962. The Municipal Swimming Pool Committee had estimated that the first stages of construction work and site preparation would be completed by mid July.

Eleven seniors of Millburn High School were recognized as semifinalists in the 1961-2 National Merit Scholarship Competition as a result of their outstanding performance on the N.M.S. Tests.

Thirteen additional firms were received as tenants by the Mall at Morris Avenue and Kennedy Parkway, and the official opening of the Mall was established for August, 1961. Mrs. Robert H. Meyner, wife of the New Jersey Governor, Robert Meyner, cut the ribbon at the ceremonial observances, at a location established for that purpose near the Bonwit Teller site. State, County, and Local officials participated as well as the public.

The first tenant, B. Altman & Co. had opened its large department store in 1956, followed by four others in 1959, to form the nucleus of the handsome landscaped shopping center.

The 50-acre Mall property occupies part of an historic site. In 1780 crossroads provided access to settlements, and essential services and supplies for the travellers.

Somewhere in the vicinity now considered to be Morris Turnpike at the river in Chatham, Shepard Kollock had his printing office, turning out revolutionary tracts and a new newspaper, "The New Jersey Journal"?first issue February 16, 1779. The exact location of the press is not certain, but it has been indicated that he moved his press around to many locations in the area to escape the enemy.

Mr. Kollock did not print on June 23, 1780, due to the fact that it was possible that the British would march up Morris Turnpike (present name) to Morristown. We know today that the British Army was in rout at the Springfield-Millburn area, by evening that day, and on their way back as speedily as possible to Staten Island. They never returned and the War eventually moved to its culmination in Yorktown, Virginia.

Most people can still remember the Castle at the northwest corner of River Bead and Morris Turnpike?the "Vanderpoel Castle" by its early name. It was razed in recent years when its site became necessary to lay out the maze of highways and bridges leading out of the Mall location and into the older roads

and the recent Kennedy Parkway.

Revolutionary troops camped on the site of the Mall; skirmishes drew blood there; farm lands provoked raids by both sides for food. The empty space, now the Mall, was probably a hive of all kinds of activity in those long ago days.

In the last half of the 19th century, too, that "Mall" location, was the hive of different activities. The stately Wallace Mansion and gardens occupied part of the grounds. In this Century the "Brook", a fashionable and excellent restaurant was established in the Mansion. It was destroyed by fire a few decades ago. (1947).

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1962

Township Committee: John T. Kelly, Jr., Ralph F. Batch, Mayor William B. Gero, Everett W. Vilett, and William O. Heilman.

Commissioner Gero, had been a member of the Committee since 1940. Mr. Vilette and Mr. Heilman were sworn in for second terms as members of the Committee. Mr. Gero was re-elected Chairman and Ralph F. Batch, Vice Chairman.

Frederick H. Groel was one of the three honorees at the annual Brotherhood Award Dinner of the National Conference of Christian and Jews, New Jersey Region.

Norman Thomas, six times a candidate for President of the United States, spoke here on "What Hope for Peace?"

The tentative budget for the Township was set at \$2,734,975.81 for municipal purposes; \$2,040,000.00 for County purposes and \$2,803,565.32 for local district schools. A final tax rate of 4.85 was adopted in April, three points lower than the original estimate.

February: The Senior High School announced that 59 seniors would receive honorary awards for high academic achievement.

Dr. Jacob H. Oxman and Nils O. Ohlson were unanimously elected President and Vice President of the Board of Education.

In March, heavy rains measuring 3 inches struck the Township during a 24-hour period. Over 250 cellars were reported flooded with depths up to 6 feet, and property damage was in the thousands of dollars. The East Branch of the Rahway River overflowed its banks at Millburn Avenue at the east end of town, while the west branch of the river in the center of the town rose alarmingly and almost toppled a brick building nearby on Millburn Avenue.

In April slightly more than 10% of the Township's eligible voters marked ballots in the primary election which was devoid of contests in either of the major parties.

The 1962 real estate tax rate was established at 4.88, but was later lowered to



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4.85 when the final figures were calculated.

The United States Census Bureau revealed the Township's median family income was \$14,145.00, the highest of any New Jersey municipality.

The Township Committee approved the Board of Adjustment's recommendation that the Racquets Club be permitted to construct a swimming pool on the Club property.

The Township Committee notified the State Highway Department that it would use \$11,712.00 in State aid to eliminate ditches along Pine and also Cypress Streets, and substitute storm sewers, In addition to the State funds the Township would provide \$1,301.00 for the work.

Robert C. Ray and John F. Kelly were appointed to the Board of Recreation Commission. Reappointed was James G. W. Timbers.

The Spring vacation of the Junior High School students was cancelled by the construction of the addition to the Junior High School Building.

A 1962 ambulance to replace a 1956 secondhand vehicle was purchased at a cost of \$19,000.00.

A new and expanded enrichment program for the summer session of the Millburn High School was announced. 24 courses were planned for the Session.

The construction of a swimming pool at the Racquets Club, recommended by the Board of Adjustment, was approved by the Township Committee for construction on the Club property.

Eleven Millburn High School students were named as finalists in the 19612 National Merit Scholarship Program competition.

In the April primary election only about 10% of the eligible voters of the Township cast ballots in the election.

Millburn 1962 tax rate was established at 4.85 per \$100. of assessed value. The established figure was 3 points lower than had been estimated.

Millburn-Short Hills Chapter of the American Red Cross celebrated the 20th anniversary of its charter, at the Chapter's annual dinner meeting. Guest speaker was Ramon S. Eaton, V.P. of the National organization.

A United States Census Bureau publication stated that the median family income of Millburn Township was the highest of any New Jersey urban municipality.

The districting of the new Deerfield School was explained to several hundred parents. It was expected that the school's enrollment on opening day would be 216.

The Rev. Herbert H. Cooper, Rector of Christ Church, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree at the Commencement services of the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary of Alexandria, Virginia.

"New Eyes for the Needy" announced the purchase of a building at the corner of Millburn Avenue and Baltusrol Way as its new headquarters.

The first Federal charter to be granted to an Essex County institution in nearly 30 years was awarded to the Short Hills National Bank to be located at the Mall.

289 diplomas were granted to the Senior Class of Millburn High School.

The new Municipal Swimming Pool in White Oak Ridge Park was opened in July. The \$450,000.00 facility had approximately 600 members.

An ordinance providing for the purchase of the Millburn Coal & Oil Co. on the west side of main Street near the Railroad elevation, was announced. The property will be used primarily for the expansion of the Township garage property and other Township interests. It was proposed to remove the buildings now on the land and have the land suitably landscaped.

In October Miss Bessie Bosworth, Township Health Officer since 1946 and a municipal employee since 1935, planned to retire at the end of 1962. Miss Ruth Gray was appointed as Vice Assistant Health Officer to succeed her.

37 seniors of Millburn High School were cited for their high performance in the National Merit Scholarships Qualifying Test.

In October, subject to strong opposition, the Township Committee approved a Zoning Variance Request to allow the Township to construct a parking lot at the southwest corner of Glen Avenue and Lackawanna Place.

A truck was wedged under the Railroad Bridge on Main Street for several hours. The Township Fire Department finally freed it using acetylene torches.

The Deerfield Elementary School was dedicated in November. A severe snow storm accompanied the ceremonies, but about 300 people struggled through.

Ralph F. Batch, and William B. Gero, easily won reelection for their seats on the Township Committee in the General Election.

In December, a tentative new school budget for 1963-4 provided for expenditures of nearly \$300,000.00 and a 16 point tax rate was presented to the Board of Education.

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## **CHAPTER XXI.**

### **1958-1976**

#### **1963**

Ralph F. Batch, was unanimously elected Chairman of the Township Committee. Serving with him were Everett W. Vilett, Vice Chairman, William O. Heilman, William B. Gero and John T. Kelly, Jr.

It was evident that by 1962 the Township, approaching its 106th municipal year, was deeply interested in the civic life of its residents and its residents were responding.

Varied religious life, good schools, generosity and cooperation on both sides had resulted in the meeting of many divergent interests, on a level within reach of anyone.

In January 1963, Orville E. Beal, President of the Prudential Insurance Company, was one of the three honorees of the 16th Annual Brotherhood Award Dinner, of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Milford A. Vieser, also of Short Hills, was selected as Toast Master.

In January, too, the Millburn and Short Hills Item began its 75th year of consecutive publication.

The Township Committee formally protested any further acquisition of land in Millburn Township by Essex County to be used for park purposes by the County. An announcement had been made by the Board of Freeholders of Essex County that it was considering acquiring lands within the Township under the State "Green Acres" program.

The Board of Education announced that it had reduced its 1963-4 School Year Budget by \$24,050.00, thus leaving \$3,148,805.00 to be raised by taxes. Samuel E. Williams, Jr. was re-elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Millburn Free Public Library.

The first six million dollar budget in Millburn history was explained in detail to the representatives of the Community Civic Associations by the Township Committee.

The combined Red Cross-Millburn Fund elected Mrs. Richard Demel, its Chairman, the first woman to hold the post.



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In February, Mrs. Lewis R. Fay was honored with the award of a National Life Membership in the Congress of Parents and Teachers—the highest national honor the P.T.A. had to offer.

Dr. Jacob Oxman and Nils O. Ohlsen were re-elected President and Vice President of the Board of Education. At the annual School election to serve with them: Earl W. Cryer, Nancy Settlemyer and Dr. Oxman were reelected to third terms on the Board.

Nine members of the High School Class of 1964 were named finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program Competition.

Edward A. Lifson was selected to head the Eighth Annual Spring Combined Health Fund Drive for a goal of \$45,000.00, which was achieved in March. The Health Fund Drive was instituted to provide funds for the Essex County Heart Association, the Mental Health Association, the Cerebral Palsy School and Treatment Center, and the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children.

The Township Committee by a decision from the Superior Court was directed to approve the application of Texaco, Inc. for the construction of a gasoline station at the intersection of Chatham and Woodland Roads.

Stephen Oxman, a Millburn High School Senior, won the State finals of the American Legion National Oratorical Contest in February, and in May won the National contest. He had been sponsored by Guy Bosworth Post #140 of Millburn and was among 400,000 senior high school students who had participated in the National competition.

Only slightly more than 11% of the 11,395 voters of Millburn cast ballots in the Spring Primary election.

The Teachers Salary Guide for 1963-4 providing a minimum wage of \$5,000.00 and a maximum of \$10,000.00 was adopted by the Board of Education.

The Rev. Romaine Bateman, retiring after over 30 years as Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Millburn, was succeeded to the pastorate by the Rev. David M. Krehbiel of Levittown, Pennsylvania.

More than 1,200 parishioners of St. Rose of Lima R. C. Church, honored the Rev. John F. Ryan, its Pastor, commemorating his 49th anniversary as a priest.

The Millburn Democratic Committee re-elected Edward F. Lonergan to his 46th

term as Chairman of the Millburn Democratic Committee. Mr. Lonergan was often called "Mr. Millburn". His great-grandfather, John Hogan, had been brought over here about 1848 to assist Mr. Wellington Campbell in "The Short Hills Paper Mill", also known as "Wellington Campbell's Mill", located at about where part of the Millburn High School now stands.

Mr. Campbell's Victorian style house, with its many porches, a cupola and beautiful fret work, became the "Chanticleer" a restaurant and night club. (N.B. marginal note to check this out. It was the Chanticleer in the 1930's) Recently its historic appearance has been remodeled for its modern functions.

Dr. Jerome G. Kaufman of Short Hills was inducted as President of the New Jersey Medical Society.

Eagle Scout badges were presented at the South Mountain District Court of Honor of the Scouts, to Douglas Calhoun and Peter Jones.

284 graduating members of the Millburn High School Class of 1963 received diplomas.

In July, 36 American Field Students who had completed their senior high school year in Illinois and Iowa, spent five days here as house guests of families of the community.

John D. Clark, long a public official in Millburn, with the Board of Adjustment, Planning Board, and several Township organizations, accepted the position of Borough Clerk and Business Administrator of New Providence. The appointment required his establishing a residence in New Providence. His place on the Millburn Board was filled by William R. Rawson.

Membership in the Township Swimming Pool for the summer of 1963 surpassed the membership figure for 1962. In the first week of the 1963 summer, 1403 families had joined the pool, exceeding the first year's membership.

Robert E. Faddis, retired principal of the Senior High School, was appointed Chairman of the Millburn Township Tercentenary Committee. Other officer-members on the Committee were Ralph F. Batch, Honorary Chairman, George H. Bauer, Secretary, George A. Mott, Treasurer.

The First Acquarama to be held at the new Municipal Swimming Pool was held on August 31st. Diving exhibitions and water ballet were two of the numbers on the program which received enthusiastic applause.

When the public schools opened in September, a new enrollment record of 3,905 was set. In the past previous tally the enrollment was 3,808.

31 Seniors received Letters of Commendation for their performance in the National 1963-4 Merit Scholarship Qualifying Tests.

The "Good Citizen Award" presented by the Short Hills Association was given to William B. Gero.

Stewart Hartshorn, Jr. of Highland Avenue purchased a 37-year old fire engine from the municipality, and donated it to Center Harbor, New Hampshire, the site of his family's summer home. The engine became available when it was announced that the Township was purchasing a new fire engine.

In November the Trustees of the Millburn Library presented to the Township Committee a unanimous request for a new building, which would double the present space, at a cost of about \$490,000.00.

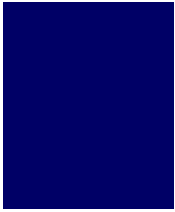
In the November election, a record of 73% of registered votes was recorded. A 75-million dollar bond issue was decisively defeated.

The entire community was plunged into a period of deep mourning when news was received here of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Special services were held in all local houses of worship during the following days. Mayor Batch proclaimed November 25th as a day of mourning and prayer.

In December the Board of Education cut \$10,186.00 from its tentative budget for 1964-5 leaving a net levy of \$3,343,522.17 for the coming school year. The net figure was about \$195,000.00 higher than the 1963 budget.

A. Ross Meeker, completing 25 years of service to the Board of Recreation, presented his resignation, effective on December 21st, from the Board of Recreation Commissioners which was accepted with regret by the Township Committee. Mr. Meeker, whose family had been natives of Millburn since the first years of the eighteenth century, also had held many offices and had given his services to uncounted numbers of local philanthropic and service groups. He moved to Florida shortly after his retirement.

The East Orange Golf Association, long time tenant of the East Orange Water Commission, lost its lease following a lengthy court proceeding which adjudicated that the City Council of East Orange had jurisdiction over the lease. Subsequently, the East Orange Council decided to operate the course as a municipal facility. Later, arrangements were concluded between Millburn and East Orange whereby such residents of Millburn and East Orange interested in golf might enjoy the course, and at a reasonable cost.



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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1964

Ralph F. Batch, Chairman, (Mayor), Everett W. Vilette, Vice Chairman Department of Law and Finance and Charities; William O. Heilman, Fire Commissioner, John B. Reilly, Jr., Buildings and Lights; and William B. Gero, Streets and Sewers.

Tercentenary Day, January 1, 1964, and Tercentenary Year, 1964, were proclaimed by Mayor Ralph F. Batch at the Township organization meeting on New Year's Day. Following the Proclamation, the New Jersey Flag and Tercentenary Flag were presented to the Township by Robert Faddis, Chairman of the Township Tercentenary Committee.

The year 1964 marked the 300th Anniversary of New Jersey. In 1664 James, Duke of York, received from Charles II of England, a Grant of Land known as "The Dutch Domain in the New World," as described in more detail in Chapter IV of this History.

Mayor Batch's proclamation reviewed the early legal proceedings of 1664. King James executed deeds of lease and release, carving from the King's original patent, all land lying between the Delaware and Hudson Rivers, and conferring upon it the name of "Nova Caesarea" or "New Jersey". The land was bestowed upon John Lord Berkeley, and on Sir George Carteret.

In 1664, too, Berkeley and Carteret signed and published "The Concessions and Agreements" of the Lords Proprietor of the Province of New Caesarea" details of which appear in "The First English Settlements of New Jersey", Chapter IV ante.

The Concessions gave to Jerseymen individual and religious freedom as well as representative government, more than a century before the Bill of Rights had granted these freedoms to all Americans.

Mayor Batch referred to significant facts which had contributed to the improvement of life in Millburn in 1963. Included were the acquisition of the Millburn Coal Co. property by the Township, on Main Street just south of the Railroad; a property which eventually brought about a vast change in the appearance of downtown Millburn. With the dilapidated buildings down, new and attractive shrubbery was planted along the Main Street frontage; and almost across the street, improvements along 400 feet of Brookside Drive, north of the Railroad, property of the Board of Education; all of which



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presented a pleasant appearance to people coming into Millburn Center.

Extension of Great Hills Terrace and Troy Drive were completed in time to serve the new Deerfield Elementary School. Footpaths were provided giving a safe route for children along. Old Short Hills Road and South Orange Avenue.

A parking lot was established at the southwest corner of Glen Avenue and Lackawanna Place on land which had been acquired by the Township several years ago. The lot was curbed, paved, and metered for practical use. West of the parking lot the vacant land was designated as another possible site for a new Library if the Main Street property were not acceptable.

To effect a more direct chain of command, the position of "Business Administrator" was created, reported Mayor Batch, and the appointment of Mr. Theodore Widmayer to such office followed. More rigid regulations covering dogs were initiated.

More effective prosecution of persons whose names were presented to the Municipal Magistrate was accomplished by the creation of the post of Municipal Court Prosecutor and the appointment of Mr. Eugene O'Toole to it.

Mayor Batch said that basic work had progressed in the New Master Plan being prepared to comply with the requirements of the Bureau of Planning of New Jersey. Conferences had already taken place with the office of Jack M. Kendree Planning Consultants of Philadelphia, the members of the Township Committee and the Township Planning Board. The new Master Plan is expected to be a valuable technical tool to achieve solutions to present problems and to avoid future difficulties.

Mr. Theodore Widmayer was appointed Business Administrator to effect a more direct chain of command, providing Mayor Batch said, "an updated modernization of our government structure".

Strictly enforced regulations covering Township dogs was undertaken and to Police Officer William Howard was assigned the task of active enforcement.

A review of the Essex County tax rates indicated that this Township had the lowest tax rate of any municipality in the State.

The following reappointments to municipal posts of Millburn also were made at that first meeting of 1964:

Harold M. Kain, Town Attorney Theodore L. Widmayer, Township Treasurer and Business Administrator. Dr. William D. Vail, Board of Health Dr. Henry T.

Arons, Police Surgeon Levi Price, Planning Board Ruyard Jennings, Civil Defense Director Marian K. Meisner, Historical Committee Samuel Marx, Millburn Public Library Board Arthur V. Wynne, Board of Recreation Mrs. Ruth Gray, Legal Assistance Bureau

At the conclusion of his report that day, Mayor Batch said that he believed that the citizens of Millburn Township are privileged to reside in the finest town in all the land, and that it is his effort to help provide Millburn citizens with a responsible government.

The Mayor concluded:

"We hereby begin the 300th year of New Jersey and the 107th year of Millburn Township. I ask the people of Millburn to take time to reflect on, and appreciate, the nearly 300 years of blessings which New Jersey has enjoyed."

On January 15th, Maurice Eisenberg, Millburn resident and internationally known concert 'cellist, gave a concert with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra at the Millburn High School. Mr. Eisenberg played the Elgar Cello Concerto in E Minor, a work he premiered with the Boston Symphony Orchestra many years ago.

Judge Milton Freiman was appointed a special lecturer at Rutgers University, Extension Division, subject "Principles of Municipal Court Administration".

The new Short Hills National Bank officially opened at the Short Hills Station on January 10th with Douglas Riddle, President. The Short Hills Daughters of the American Revolution held its first meeting of the new season. Speaker was Mrs. Richard Bozorth (Louise Bozorth) on the subject "Japan, 1962". The Bozorths had recently returned from more than a year's stay in Japan, to which Mr. Bozorth had been assigned by his company, New Jersey Bell Laboratories.

Building values operations in 1963 were \$4,464,165.00.

Mrs. Frank MacDonald, of Meadowbrook Road completed 9 years as a Girl Scout Leader.

The Rum Creek Players presented "The Best Man" at Hartshorn School on January 24th and 25th. Norman Schneider was Director.

Winter's worst storm arrived on January 16th. More than 15 inches fell from Sunday to Tuesday.

Edward Chalif of Short Hills, ornithologist gave a talk at the Arboretum on

January 25th on "Birds of this Area". Included in his lecture were not only the familiar birds, but titmice, juncoes, white throated sparrows, nuthatches, woodpeckers, mocking birds and other lesser known creatures, all illustrated with colored slides.

The 1964 tax rate was announced as 2.61 an 11-point rise.

The off-again on-again negotiations between East Orange and Millburn relative to the operation of the East Orange Golf Club Course on Parsonage Hill Road, apparently surfaced again, and it was announced that the agreement might be ratified in a few days, all major differences having now been agreed upon. on February 13th the two municipalities approved a two-year pact insuring golf privileges for Millburn residents for a two-year period, with agreements reached as to fees. In Class 1, Daily green fees were established, temporarily, at least, at \$1.00 on Sundays, \$2.00 Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; after 4:00 p.m., \$1.50.

Class 2 provided for \$83.00 a year, family green fees, \$1.00 and after 4 p.m. \$1.50.

In one of the closest votes in a School Election voters rejected the current expenses portion of the 1964-5 budget; approved capital outlay appropriations; and elected the 3-man candidate Board. 3,090 out of a possible 11,000 voters went to the polls.

The New Jersey Tercentenary History mobile visited Millburn on April 27th and spent the day in the parking lot at the Town Hall, under the auspices of the Millburn Township Tercentenary Committee, of which Robert Faddis was Chairman. Distributed to all visitors to the Mobile was "A Brief History of Millburn Township" by Marian K. Meisner, a small, two-page booklet, written for Millburn Tercentenary Committee, for the occasion. Later that year the 1,000 word pamphlet was distributed to all visitors at the New Jersey Pavilion of the World's Fair in New York.

Dr. Jacob H. Oxman and Nancy Settlemyer were elected President and Vice President of the Millburn Board of Education.

The Sabin anti-polio vaccine, a breakthrough in the dreaded polio epidemic, was offered at three local schools on March 1st, with a makeup clinic available on March 8th.

For the second time, the Board of Education proposed a budget of \$2,844,219. for the 1965-6 school year which was rejected again. The Millburn Short Hills Chapter of the American Red Cross announced that it was dedicating its Board Room as a memorial to Mrs. Anne Doubleday who had served long, both on

the local area and in the National Red Cross offices.

Edward F. Lonergan was elected to his 45th term as Chairman of the Millburn Township Democratic Committee.

Three Township school teachers were honored by the Board of Education on the occasion of their retirement. Mrs. Margaret Luckie, Wallace McComb, and Mrs. Anna Bade had a total of 97 years as teachers.

Millburn Township Combined Health Fund reached or exceeded its goal in this year's drive.

37 American Field students representing 23 foreign countries spent a 7-day visit here during the summer.

For the first time in its history, in Millburn the Democratic Party candidate for President was endorsed by a majority of Millburn voters in November. Johnson outpolled Goldwater by 25 votes. 10,722 ballots cast, or 86% of the vote was cast for Mr. Johnson. [N.B.: these last two sentences give conflicting balloting information.]

The Township Committee unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the municipality to lease the old freight station to the First Aid Squad on a 25-year lease at a \$1.00 a year fee, to permit the First Aid to rebuild the old station for its headquarters.

An advertisement by Kasparen, local meat dealer, featured best capons at 49¢ a pound; bacon, 69¢, rib roast, 69¢ and lamb, 89¢ a pound.

The old elm tree on Main Street, the joy and pride of many Millburn Township residents, died of old age. Its age was estimated to be at least 300 years old.

In December it was announced that Ralph Batch was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Township Committee.

The Red Cross-Millburn Fund announced also, that it had exceeded its quota this year. The final total of the amount received was \$68,616.00.

## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1965

A great bonfire at the beginning of the new year marked the disposal of many of Millburn's used Christmas trees, used in homes and in the Township decorations. In one last moment of glory, the trees, left over, contributed by, and collected from, many streets and households, went up in a final spectacle.

Soon after the New Year the Millburn Adult School opened with its standard curriculum plus, and for the first time, new classes in German and Italian.

The Arboretum opened also with a new class in "How to Take Closeups of Birds, Flowers, and Insects".

A. Ross Meeker, retired as a member of the Shade Tree Commission at its year end meeting. It was the completion of Mr. Meeker's tenth year as a member. At the meeting, plans were disclosed to help make the Township more beautiful. Among the plans were new flower beds in available places around the Township, and in Taylor Park, and also, work on the Rahway River with the enhancing of its beauty in mind.

Dr. Charles T. King, Township Superintendent of Schools was presented a Citation by Dr. Jacob H. Oxman on behalf of the Centennial of the American Association of School Administrators in recognition of Dr. King's "selfless devotion to promoting purposes and programs of the Association".

Classes in "Adolescent Psychology" and "Photography" were added to the Adult School Curriculum, to be given by Dr. James T. McHorter and Leon M. Hirsch, respectively.

The turnout of voters for the School Election reached its lowest point to date, only 20% of eligible voters appearing to mark their ballots.

On February 18th, Bloomingdale's began its negotiations for the completion and opening of its store at the Short Hills Mall.

Three Millburn High School seniors tied for the position of Valedictorian in the 1965 Class. Ruth Borker, Matthew Geller, and David Schwartz would tie the Honor. Eleanor Warnock was Salutatorian.

Eight students were named as National Merit Scholarship finalists. They were



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William Baron, Alice Barr, Nell Dunlop, Matthew Geller, Steven Mullenier, David Schwartz, William Sugg and Judith Torgerson.

Final steps in the completion of Kennedy Parkway into Livingston began on March 4, 1965.

Twenty American Field Service Visiting Students were guests of local families. They came from Chile, Belgium, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Germany, England, New Zealand, Argentina, Brazil, Switzerland, Colombia, the Phillipines, Austria, The Netherlands, and Turkey.

On April 27th, Brendan T. Byrne, Essex County Prosecutor, was the principal speaker at the Short Hills Association Annual Dinner.

1st Lieut. Kenneth L. Dann, Jr. [N.B.: name is questioned] was reported as a casualty in Vietnam in May.

A target was set hopefully for the year 1966, as the date when groundbreaking would be celebrated which would lead to construction of a civic center on Main Street between Taylor Street and Church Street. Hopefully, a new Town Hall, a Library, and Police Headquarters could be accommodated in the area. The site had been recommended by the Library Site Committee.

In June, also, the Paper Mill Playhouse was represented at the White House Arts Festival. Mr. Frank Carrington was invited by the President and Mrs. Johnson, as one of the coproducers of "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams. He was a guest at the White House.

A traffic light was installed at the corner of Wyoming and Glen Avenues, fulfilling a need apparent for some time.

Also, a three-par golf course was recommended for installation in White Oak Ridge Park.

On June 5th the biggest Art Show ever known to have been held in New Jersey, was presented by the Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center at the Short Hills Mall. Oils, watercolors, graphics, drawings, Sculpture, and arts in many media, were submitted and shown. No restrictions were imposed as to type of work and every school of art was represented, including abstracts, traditional, and surrealist work.

The range of work submitted represented art in many forms and schools, with exhibits ranging from that of amateurs to the State's better known professionals. The work hung in every space available to exhibitors.

Oils made up about two-thirds of the paintings, but the highest level of art work was considered to be in Sculpture and sales were achieved in many categories. The Judges for prizes, all from Manhattan, were Edward Bryant, Assistant Curator of the Whitney Museum, William McGee of Hunter College, and Helen Frankenthaler, a Painter, who is the wife of Robert Motherwell.

The only local winner-exhibitor was Miss Elizabeth Greenleaf who received \$200.00 for her oil. However, another winner, Alex Farnham, now of Stockbridge, New Jersey, had lived here for most of his life. He received a cash prize also.

The grandprize, a trip by plane to San Francisco, was won by a Plainfield resident. Fifteen cash prizes from \$200.00 down to \$25.00 went to other 15 artists. Honorable mentions accompanied by Short Hills Mall Merchandise Prizes were received by 20 others.

Prizes were bestowed by L. Durward Badgley, 1965 President of the local Arts Center and by Mayor Ralph F. Batch.

Arts Center members planning and directing the Show were Gretchen Keown, General Chairman, Virginia Collins, Irene Cornish, Helen Drake Hocker, Marian K. Meisner, Ella O'Donnell, and Ruth Pillman.

On June 17th it was announced that the Township Health Fund topped its quota of \$45,000.00.

The Township tax rate moved up again, this time to 2.69.

An advertisement in the Item in June (1965) offers legs of veal at 49¢ a pound; pork loins, 7 ribs size at 54¢ a pound; "super" quality pork roasts at 59¢ a pound; fresh fowl, 33¢, whole fowl at 29¢, and large eggs two dozen for 87¢.

An advertisement in the Item of January 29, 1976, is presented here for comparison: veal roast \$1.49 a pound, veal cutlets, \$2.98 a pound; eye of round \$1.69 a pound. In another advertisement on approximately the same day in 1976, only two meats, shoulder butts \$1.69 a pound, and spare ribs, \$.99 a pound, were offered.



## CHAPTER XXI.

1958-1976

### 1966

Ralph F. Batch, Chairman and Police Department; William B. Gero, Streets and Sewers; Everett W. Vilett, Law, Finance, and Charities; William O. Heilman, Fire Protection and Water Supply; John T. Kelly, Jr., Buildings and Lights.

The Township Committee appointed Committeemen Heilman and Vilett, and Town Attorney Harold M. Kain, to form a special subcommittee to the Township Committee to oppose formally all moves by the Erie Lackawanna Railroad which would lead to the discontinuance of passenger train service on its line serving Millburn.

In April, ground-breaking exercises were held at the property on Glen Avenue adjacent to the Millburn Railroad Station, to initiate the building of a First Aid Headquarters to be erected on that site. The building was opened for active use in the Fall.

The Shade Tree Commission announced, too, the planting of flowering trees along the sidewalks of Millburn Business Center. In 1976 those trees have grown sturdily and tall, and in early Spring present a display of thousands of pink and white blossoms.

In May, a Millburn Youth Center opened at the White Oak Ridge Recreation House.

Judy Eron, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Eron of Ridgewood Road was named Valedictorian of the 1966 Graduating Class of the High School, and JoAnn Weinberg was named Salutatorian.

Other awards and honors were participated in by students and faculty of the local High School. Stephen Oxman was selected to participate in the United States Student Leaders Delegation to Japan, New Zealand and Australia; and Leonard G. Blessing of the Faculty was the recipient of the State award of the National Association of Biology Teachers. Later in the year, Stephen Oxman was named as one of the 22 U.S. Rhodes Scholars for 1967.

A recommendation for the building of garden apartments on the site of the Fandango Mill was approved. The razing of the old landmark, built in late 1700's, now a festering ruin, was completed in August. For more than a century, life in



Print

Millburn had been dominated by the bustling activities of the old paper mills. However, the Fandango had been deserted for many years prior to 1966, and provided a haven for rats and other rodents, and breeding ground for mosquitoes. Its ghostly remains of a way of life which had given Millburn its name, no longer spoke of its historic importance.

A million dollar permit was issued to Chubb & Son allowing it to add three stories to its building opposite the Short Hills Mall.

A terrific heat and dry spell struck in early summer. The Rahway River and Taylor Park Lake were reduced to an unsightly morass.

Rev. H. Otheman Smith announced his resignation from Community Congregational Church.

In July the Short Hills Country Day School and Miss Beard's School began studying the possibility of combining the two schools.

Indication of good times appeared in the publication of the earnings of the First National State Bank, up 11%, for 6 months, and a new high for net savings; and that of the National Newark and Essex Bank whose earnings were substantially higher over December, 1965.

The Girl Scouts provided a garden spot on Essex Street at the Railroad Station. Their garden design won an award at competition. Planting was made possible by the donation of leftover plants from recent Scout sales, and the strenuous efforts of the Scouts, its Leaders and volunteer friends.

Two hypobaric chambers were delivered to St. Barnabas Hospital which would bring to the Hospital and its patients further advantages in treatment.

Rev. James Elliott Lindsay, Pastor of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church since 1957, accepted a call to Corning, New York. Rev. Mr. Lindsay had succeeded Rev. Hugh W. Dickinson who had served St. Stephen's for many years.

Levi Price, Township Engineer since 1937, was given a Retirement Party at Canoe Brook Club on August 18th. At the dinner, it was emphasized that Complete Honesty had been his attribute, both privately and as a Township representative. His retirement took effect on September 1st, but Mr. Price died on November 19, 1966.

Edward Lonergan and Paul Waese, two wellknown Millburn merchants, both died on August 25th. Mr. Lonergan had been born in Millburn in his family's

"Prairie Rose" building, next to the present hardware store. He was Chairman of the Millburn Township Democratic Committee for almost 30 years. He was Grand Marshal of the Millburn Centennial Parade in 1957. He had headed the Irvington Draft Board in 1917 when that Town had jurisdiction over Millburn's Draft Requirements.

Mr. Waese had been in business here, too, since the early years of the 20th century. He served as President of the Millburn Merchants Association and of his Yachting Club at the Shore. He had given unrequiting service and help whenever called upon by Millburn.

An Acquarama was held at the new Township Pool in September, including diving exhibitions, water polo, novelty swimming races, tugs of war, and other intricate and colorful forms of water sports and play.

Miss Carnia Charlotte Heden came from Sweden to attend Millburn High School as an A.F.S. Student. Miss Heden made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riddle of Short Hills.

The Millburn Adult School opened in September with an expanded curriculum and with good attendance registered for participation. New this year was a course in "Chancery Cursive" to be given by Mrs. Kirk McFarlin, an experienced and professional handwriting teacher and calligrapher.

Temple B'nai Jeshurun was dedicated on September 18th at its chosen site on South Orange Avenue west of Old Short Hills Road. Rev. H. Otheman Smith, of the Community Congregational Church, represented Protestant denominations, and Rev. John F. Ryan, the Catholic community. Mayor Ralph F. Batch also participated in the ceremonies.

The Public School enrollment in September set a new record of 4,344 pupils.

The Fall Primary Election fell to a new low. Only 10% of the registered voters cast ballots, out of 12,000 regular registered voters.

17 Millburn High School students were National Merit semi-finalists.

Early in October a site was prepared for Bloomingdale's Department Store at the Short Hills Mall, to be the largest of the Mall stores.

A large painting by Edward Dufner, N.A. was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Silversher to Millburn Township, to be hung temporarily at the Millburn Senior High School. Mr. Dufner was a National Academician, who had made his home for many years on Sagamore Road, Millburn, and later at 10 Wyndham Road,

Short Hills. The Silbershers, art dealers, had acquired the painting from Mrs. (Fern) Dufner on her moving to California on Mr. Dufner's death. Eventually the painting was moved to the large reception room in the new Recreation House in Taylor Park where it is still hanging.

On November 17th an undefeated Millburn High School Football team put its record on the line in its Thanksgiving Day play vs. Madison High School.

The Board of Education announced that it would receive bids on November 21st for a school construction program for a new Washington School to be located on Spring Street, Millburn. Issuance of bonds of 2.8 million dollars would cover the cost of the new Washington School, an Education Center, and work on the Wyoming, Hartshorn, Glenwood, and South Mountain Elementary Schools.

On December 15th Theodore L. Widmayer announced his retirement on January 1st.

On December 15th also the School Budget called for an additional \$437,527.00.

The Township Planning Board by a 5 to 1 vote formally amended the Municipal Master Plan by designating a 550-foot plot for the westerly side of Main Street between Church and Taylor Streets, to be held for consideration as a site for a new Millburn Municipal Center.

On December 2nd, Police Lieutenant Charles Mayo was shot in the face, in a pointblank shot, by a burglar. He was taken to Overlook Hospital and eventually recovered and returned to the Police Department. He is now retired.

The Rev. Herbert H. Cooper, Rector of Christ Church was appointed on December 29th Protestant Chaplain of the Millburn Fire Department, succeeding Rev. James Lindsley, former Paster of St. Stephen's Church.

The Millburn-Short Hills Item announced in its last Edition of 1966 that the new 1967 Township Committee would include William Gero, Streets and Sewers, John T. Kelly, Buildings and Lights; Ralph F. Batch, Township Committee Chairman, Everett W. Vilette, Vice Chairman and head of Law Department, William O. Heilman, Fire Commissioner and head of Charities Department.

## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1967

Ralph F. Batch, Chairman, Police; Everett W. Vilett, Vice Chairman, Law, Finance, Charities; William B. Gero, Streets and Sewers; William O. Heilman, Fire Protection and Water Supply; John T. Kelly, Jr., Building and Lights

Voting apathy in April, 1966, produced only 12% of the vote. On January 27, 1967, only 8% of the voters eligible endorsed the plan of the Board of Education.

The Neighborhood House evaluated a half year of "Medicare" and was pleased to report that "Six Months of Medicare and all is well."

Vladimir Havsky, organist of Christ Church played a recently developed new concert grand piano, to be heard for the first time in this area, at Millburn Senior High School, on February 3d at 8:30 p.m. The instrument was developed by Baldwin, with the advice of Bechstein craftsmen, and with Leonard Bernstein acting as Consultant. Mr. Havsky played selections from works of Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, Debussy, and Mendelsohn. Listeners were given the opportunity to hear a practically new instrument interpreting the great music of classicists.

The new Township 1967 tax rate may top the rate of 3.06 with some changes in valuation.

Early in February, too, a really old-fashioned blizzard arrived and spent most of Monday and Tuesday in covering the Township.

On February 16th, less than 4% of the Community's voters approved this year's Budget of the Board of Education, with only 463 people casting ballots.

The first ice skating of the year arrived at Taylor Park in mid February and brought out a record crowd of Township skaters.

In February, also, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for Millburn High School, Class of 1967, were named as Alice Halstead and Marshall Burack, respectively.

Carl C. Salisbury, in the School Service and Principal since 1929, announced his intention to retire at the end of the school year.



Print

Wyoming Association, the oldest Civic Association in the Township, celebrated its 60th Anniversary this year.

Linda Rubenstein was selected by the American Field Service as a participant in the "Americans Abroad" program. She will spend her summer in Japan.

Rev. Kenyon J. Wildrick was named Senior Minister of Community Congregational Church, succeeding Dr. H. Otheman Smith.

24 members of Millburn Class of 1967 received Scholarships or Grants, of the potential value of \$146,250.00 covering students' four years of higher education.

71 Ninth Grade Students received special awards for their high standards of behavior and personal integrity.

Kenneth Froewiss left the Township for a year at Calcutta University under the auspices of the Rotary Foundation Fellowship.

Civil Air Patrolman, Arthur L. Herold, was selected as a participant in the International Air Cadet Exchange Program. Robert A. Searles was named as Vice Principal of the Millburn High School.

Rev. Henry B. Strock, Minister of Wyoming Presbyterian Church, accepted a call to Sharon, Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Thomas J. Henry was appointed new Rector of St. Stephen's Church to succeed Rev. J. Elliot Lindsley.

Six representatives from J. M. Cleminshaw Co. were engaged to reevaluate all real property in Millburn Township.

Stephen Oxman of Princeton University was elected Chairman of the Undergraduate Council and Chairman of the Student Honors Committee.

Cantor Paul Silbersher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Silbersher of Millburn, became a Candidate for Ordination this year. He had attended Drew University, studied Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College; and received a B. A. Degree in Philosophy at New School for Social Research.

Dr. Max Gruenewald, Ph.D., D.D. was the first Lenten speaker before the Women's Guild of Christ Church. His subject was "The Word of the Old Testament." Dr. Gruenewald had received his Ph.D. from Breslau University,

and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Jewish Theological Seminary of New York City. Dr. Gruenewald was the sole surviving Rabbi of Mannheim, Germany, during the holocaust of the Nazi Regime.

Congressman Gerald B. Ford, of the U.S. House of Representatives, accepted an invitation of the Millburn Republican Club to speak here on May 15th. His appearance was arranged by Congresswoman, Florence P. Dwyer, of New Jersey, who had been his associate in Congress for more than 11 years.

On March 16th two former Millburn High School Students received Woodrow Wilson Fellowships; one, John Burguieres, Jr. now a student at Virginia University, and the other Daniel Rubinfeld at Princeton University.

Rev. William C. Lincoln accepted a call to the Millburn Baptist Church on March 23rd, succeeding Rev. Romaine F. Bateman.

Miss Eileen Schauler of Church Street, Millburn, was the featured soloist at a concert of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra on April 1st at Symphony Hall, Newark. Miss Schauler, a former student at Millburn High School and 1945 graduate, has appeared frequently on radio and television concerts, and a featured soloist in roles at the New York City Opera and Lincoln Center.

Community Achievement Award for 1967 was presented to Dr. Charles T. King for his "Guidance and Leadership".

Police Lieutenant Charles Mayo was shot by an unknown assailant in Millburn before Christmas. He has not yet fully recovered, and an award of over \$2,000.00 has been offered for his assailant.

The Township snow bill came to a total of \$33,737.00 in April. In the same month the tax rate went up 27 points above the 1966 levy, to 3.06.

Deputy Fire Chief William A. Stoeckle retired at the end of March ending a 38-year career in that service.

Carl C. Salsbury, in the School Service and Principal since 1929, announced his intention to retire at the end of the school year.

Wyoming Association, the oldest Civic Association in the Township, celebrated its 60th Anniversary this year.

Linda Rubenstein was selected by the American Field Service as a participant in "Americans Abroad" program. She spent her summer in Japan.

24 members of Millburn High School Class of 1967 received Grants and Scholarships of the potential value of \$146,250.00 covering students' four years of higher education.

A new ordinance was adopted setting new and stricter requirements for Millburn Center parking and for off-street parking.

Millburn high School announced the coming presentation of an Arts Festival, to include exhibitions and demonstrations in art work and crafts; and a music and theatre program to be presented in the auditorium of the High School.

The Millburn Police Department increased its manpower to 43, appointing four new men. Announcement was made that eventually the Department hoped to have a 50-man staff.

Bernard P. Day died on April 12th. Mr. Day and his family had lived here for many years. His business life was in New York City. he was a former Governor of the Real Estate Board of New York City; past President of the New York Board of Trade and President of Real Estate Auctioneers of New York, and he was a member or officer of many other Boards and Corporations.

Again the discussion emerged as to the practicality and availability of property on Main Street from Taylor to Church Streets, as the site of a new civic center to include a new Police Headquarters, a new Library, and a Town Hall.

An Editorial in the Millburn-Short Hills Item again suggested the construction of a 9-hole Par 3 Golf Course in the White Oak Ridge Park, but was pessimistic about the plan's ever being accepted.

A new Millburn Avenue Shopping Center plan was emerging. The plan called for the construction of seven new buildings fronting on Millburn Avenue, west of Wyoming Avenue, and extending from Millburn Avenue almost to the railroad tracks in the rear. Opposition was lessening and with backing from Berkshire Life Insurance Company, it was almost a certain possibility.

Congressman Gerald R. Ford arrived, as expected, on May 15th. Mr. Ford was described as "at once a nice guy and a strong partisan, who can attack the Federal octopus." He had been a member of the House of Representatives since 1949.

The Item called attention to Mr. Ford's coming here which would be a "rare opportunity to hear a National figure regardless of party affiliation."

The 25th Anniversary of the Red Cross Millburn Short Hills Chapter, was



celebrated on May 18th.

The Salvation Army "Red Shield Award" for service to people and community, was presented to Milford A. Vieser on May 22nd.

The Eighth Graders of the Millburn Junior High School achieved an all time record for fund raising for Hope. In February the Class had voted to start a project by hunting for odd jobs in the Community, including car washing, gardening, house cleaning, baby sitting and holding a Nursery School. 257 members of the Class participated and \$1,207.00 was raised; \$1,145.00 from performing jobs, and only \$62.00 was derived from contributions.

On May 25th one of the highest awards for outstanding service in Scouting was presented to Mrs. Arthur Hesse at the annual Assembly of the Girl Scout Council. Mrs. Hesse, adviser to Millburn Senior Troop #2, was honored for having given "far more time, effort, and enthusiasm, than would ordinarily be expected of a Scout Leader."

In June, 344 students were graduated from Millburn High School, of whom 35 graduated with High Honors, 41 with Honors. 96% of the graduates planned to continue higher education. 24 members of the Class had already received Grants and Scholarships of the potential value of \$146,250.00, covering students' four years of higher education.

The Class Valedictorian was Alice Horton and Marshall Burack, Salutatorian. The President of the Class was John Baker.

Mr. Sohmer said that Millburn High School had graduated 3,729 seniors in the past 16 years, and during that time more than 10% of each group had received grants of the potential value of \$1,027,267.00. However, he said that this is not the total amount as some grants had been made for the first time during Sophomore and Junior years.

A drenching rain arriving at the actual graduation time caused much turmoil. Dr. King said that in 1963 the weather looked just as bad at graduation time and everyone moved into the school. However, the rain did not come and then everyone was unhappy because the move had not been necessary.

The traditional Fourth of July celebration was again a very successful event, held under the auspices of the Millburn-Short Hills Fourth of July Committee, Inc. with Donald Gault, 1967 President, and Alfred W. Harris again presiding as Master of Ceremonies.

During the Fourth of July weekend, six homes and Breck's Plant Shop were broken into with resulting losses of varying degrees.

The Deerfield Summer School students turned the woods adjacent to their school, into their classroom, and they worked on projects chosen by them, involving small animals, birds, local plants, and the History of New Jersey.

In the coming school year, starting in September, Italy and England will send students to Millburn High School for the school year. The American Field Service will sponsor Miss Marina Prati from Italy and Nicholas Gray from England.

71 Ninth Grade Students received special awards for their high standards of behavior and personal integrity.

Kenneth Froewiss left the Township for a year at Calcutta University under the auspices of the Rotary Foundation Fellowship.

Civil Air Patrolman, Arthur L. Herold, was selected as participant in the C.A.P. International Air Cadet Exchange Program.

Robert A. Searles was named as Vice Principal of the Millburn High School.

Rev. Henry B. Strock, Minister of Wyoming Presbyterian Church accepted a call to Sharon, Pennsylvania. He was succeeded in his office here by Rev. [N. B.: name missing]

Since the end of World War II, five Millburn young men have been casualties in the smaller wars in which the Township became involved, Vietnam, Korea, and lesser incidents.

Kenneth L. Dean was a West Point graduate, but had moved to Millburn shortly before entering service. Others killed in service were Justin Whiting, Bill Huyler, "Biff" Mullins, and Mark Judge. Mark Judge had grown up in Millburn; had attended its schools, and was attending Fairleigh Dickinsen College when called into service. He had been a member of Essex Junior Troop for 7 years. He was killed on July 13th, about 5 miles from the Cambodian Border. He was a Specialist 4th Class in the Army.

On July 27th it was announced in the Item of that date, that Captain Clarence A. Hills, Jr., of Haddonfield Road, Commanding officer of Attack Aircraft Carrier, "U.S.S. Independence", had been killed on July 8th.

It was established in August that the average household income in Millburn Township was first in New Jersey and sixth in the United States. The average figure here for the year was given as \$22,571.00 "average per household

figure."

In September, a Yule Lighting was planned here for Millburn Center under the auspices of the local Chamber of Commerce. Six-foot tall Christmas candles mounted on telephone poles was the chosen decoration.

The Public School enrollment that September reached 4,302. 14 Millburn High students have been named semi-finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Class of 1968. Selected were Sophie Balcoff, Nancy Bateman, Susan Cantor, Margaret Custer, David Ehrlich, Richard Fish, Zoe Grunland, Eileen Jacoby, Cynthia Jones, Arthur Kent, Harry Kolb, David Posner, Roswell Roper, and John Scully.

The First Aid Squad established a record in August. It had spent 233 hours in services and had answered 48 emergency calls, and 19 transportation cases.

The Red Cross-Millburn Fund announced its 1967 goal as \$73,500.00 to be shared by Red Cross, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Neighborhood Association. The collected total was \$61,039.00.

69% of Millburn's registered voters voted in the November election. Everett W. Vilett received 4,395 votes out of the 7,982 who voted.

On December 7th a new service for Millburn households was established, with headquarters at St. Stephens Church, known as Youth Employment Service, "YES", with Kelly Marx, President.

A tentative budget for the coming school year set up for \$5,301,998.24 was proposed by the Board of Education. If approved by voters, said the Board spokesman, it would bring about a 24-point increase in tax rate.

An ordinance set a 8:00 p.m. time on the day of garbage collections as the legal deadline for removal of empty trash cans from the curb. The original proposed time limit of 2 p.m. was dropped after considerable objection.

A sample advertisement in the prior Thanksgiving papers provides information covering a segment of the "cost of living" data at the end of 1967.

Turkeys, (20 pounds and under 24 pounds) 29¢ a pound, 10 pounds and under 19 pounds, 33¢ a pound; sirloin steak, 89¢ a pound; porterhouse steak, 99¢ a pound; coffee two pounds for \$1.29; sword fish 79¢ a pound.



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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1968

Mayor, Ralph F. Batch, Police; Vice Chairman, Everett W. Vilett, Law, Finance, and Charities; William G. Gero, Streets and Sewers, William O. Heilman, Fire Protection and Water Supply; John T. Kelly, Jr., Buildings and Lights.

The Millburn-Short Hills Item, Edition of September 17, 1968, in commemoration of the Item's 80th Anniversary, presented a three-part showcase of Millburn's public and historic life, during the 80 years of the Item's existence (1888-1968).

The Special Edition was produced in three parts; One, "The History and People of the Community," two, "A Community of Many People Under One God;" three, "We are a People with a Zest for Life."

Included in the Special 1968 Edition, printed on exceptionally good paper stock, were many photographs, biographies, short histories of the clubs, associations, and societies which have contributed to Millburn life. Tributes to, and predictions of, the coming life of Millburn, were contributed to many wellknown Millburn citizens.

The story of "The Item" in the community, starting in 1888, moved through early successes and tribulations; guided by its then editor, writer, printer, and publisher, George E. Grosscup; printed on more or less 9 x 12 inch stock, presented chiefly social news and a plentiful supply of "Boiler Plate", which offered useful information, with no relationship to the community in which it was printed.

On April 1, 1968, the Item had been purchased by Wallace A. Sprague and Mary Lou Sprague, his wife, from Charles Paulson and Martha Paulson, his wife. William H. Baetzner remained as Business Manager and Willard L. Annett, Advertising Director.

The Headquarters of the Item was then and in 1976, at 18 Main Street, Millburn, which was its fourth address since 1920. In 1920 it was on Millburn Avenue west of the Washington School; in the 1930's on lower Main Street; from 1946 to 1958 at 391 Millburn Avenue, and since then at 18 Main Street.

In the Special 80th Anniversary edition, the Item presented many distinguished citizens of the Township; short histories of the community's religious, charitable, athletic, and social institutions, and a "Diary of the Community", in



Print

addition to a generous supply of photographs accompanying stories.

The Diary recalls how in 1888 George E. Grosscup previously associated with various endeavors in Short Hills turned to Journalism.

"He little thought," said the story, "that the News Item would endure for 80 years, and become the only and official newspaper of the Township."

At intervals the Item had several rivals appearing through the years, and falling again silently by the wayside.

One rival, "The Review" once said about the Item:

"That mongrel sheet published in Short Hills squirts a column of sarcasm against the Review. We have been barked at by curs before now. We don't mind trifles like that. Bark away, you little Nuisance!"

The taunts must have bounded off the target, as it was "The News Item" which remained, and the "Review" which disappeared.

Just when the "News" became the Millburn and Short Hills Item" can not now be stated with any certainty. It was said that a fire and poor filing system destroyed all but scattered issues of the early days. The paper seems to have grown slowly from its original small size, finally to the standard format.

Various owners and editors came and went with less than regular or frequent publications, until 1933 when Harry G. More, formerly of Binghamton, New York, acquired all of the stock of the Item Publishing and Printing Company. In 1945 Mr. More was succeeded by his son-in-law, Charles E. Paulson. Willard H. Baetzner joined the staff in 1953, and later he became Business Manager, a position which he held until recent years.

The Millburn and Short Hills Item on the occasion of its 80th anniversary, on October 17, 1968, offered a very complete presentation of Millburn life, political and social as of that day.

The Township Committee, elected officials, in 1968 were assisted by the Planning Board, Board of Health, Board of Adjustment, Board of Improvement Assessment Commissioners, Shade Tree Commission, Board of Recreation Commissioners, Child Guidance Clinic of the Oranges, Maplewood, and Millburn, Local Assistance Board, Township Clerk, and Tax Collector, and by the appointed Township Attorney, Business Administration-Treasurer, Magistrate, Township Auditor, Welfare Director, Municipal Prosecutor, Board of Tax Assessors, Millburn Historical Committee, and Board of Education. There

were 14 school officials, including Charles T. King, Superintendent of Schools, Roy H. Taylor, Jr., Director of Administrative Services, and ten school principals.

The assessed value of property in 1968 was \$273,654,600.00; in 1969, \$280,717,900.00. Real property was assessed at 100% of the appraised value. The total anticipated income in 1968 was estimated to be \$12,243,000.00. In 1967 total anticipated income had been \$10,549,000.00.

The anticipated income was roughly appropriated among General Government, Public Works, Protection of Persons and Property; Streets and Roads, Sanitation, Health and Charities, Recreation and Education, and a Contingent \$15,000.00.

The distinguished office of Valedictorian of the Senior High School was shared by three graduates who shared equal high grades to entitle them to that honor. Achieving parts in that highest honor of the Class were Carol Bernard, Harry Kolb, and Richard Watson.

The Rev. William R. Russell was called to the Wyoming Presbyterian Church from the Fifth Avenue Church of New York City.

Mayor Ralph Batch announced that the Criminal Center Proposal was being abandoned.

Henry A. Peer became the Essex County Treasurer.

The Board of Adjustment again turned down an application to construct an office building on the site of the South Mountain Nurseries.

Hal Purdy, Golf Course Architect, was officially named to prepare detailed plans for a three-par golf course in the White Oak Ridge Park.

The Millburn Township Combined Health Fund Drive went over its goal by \$2,518.46. The goal had been \$50,000.00. Proceeds would be distributed in a fixed proportion among Essex County Heart Association, Mental Health Association, Retarded Children Association, and Arthritis-Rheumatism Foundation.

Mrs. William Anderson of Berkeley Road celebrated her 100th birthday on November 25th.

Tentative 1969-70 school budget was established at \$5,919,489.00 for the coming year.

One actual photograph in the 80th Anniversary section of the October 17, 1968 issue, will never be taken again. It is a photograph of a row of one-story simple wooden houses, each unit accommodating two families, side by side. The homes were known collectively as "Veterans Housing", which were completed after the end of World War II to give shelter and some simple homelife accommodations to returning veterans. The little houses were occupied and were still in use in the late 1950's. They were completely utilitarian for the period in which they were built and served a very important purpose. They were removed in the early 60's when their usefulness had passed.

34 Millburn High School students, "candy-strippers", were honored by the Millburn Women's Club for giving 2800 hours service to the Hospital.

Even in a small and far away town like Millburn the Vietnam War and the controversies associated with it, became an all-pervasive and disturbing element in its life. A massive resistance to the War was growing in the upper schools; controversies over anti-ballistic missiles; disasters suffered by the United States with ships and planes, and a deeply pessimistic attitude in many places was shattering morale. The thought was expressed by a leader trying to hold some of the pieces together, that "if all is not well, the alternatives are indescribably worse".

A new building pattern was emerging on Main Street. A 20-family apartment was planned for that location with a promise of attractive exterior which could bring an improvement to the neighborhood.

A new Police Building was still in the planning stage, but it was indicated that the cost may top \$500,000.

An increase in the Draft called for 644 men from the State for August, an increase of 141 over July.

An editorial in the Item called attention to the fact that a new Police Headquarters must be built; that the cost now will probably rise to \$800,000.00, including land and the construction, but that every delay will only increase the cost.

On July 31st a tornado-like storm hit the Wyoming section damaging particularly Chestnut Street, Sagamore Road, Wyoming Avenue and Mountain Avenue.

In the same storm the river in the center of town again flooded. Basements of more than 200 residents were flooded, and many nearby roads were impassable.



Walkways beneath the railroad tracks at Short Hills station were under water for the first time in history. Flooded basements of homes near the river were numerous. The Police and Fire Departments had to work in 12hour shifts to alleviate some of the problems and the Jersey Central Power and Light Co. worked many days restoring service, particularly for those in Wyoming section, including Chestnut Street, Sagamore Road, Wyoming Avenue and Mountain Avenue. 135 houses in the Wyoming section lost services for a time as the "tree streets" of Wyoming were ripped by rain and water damage.

The latest cost of the new Police Headquarters has been placed at \$790,000.00. The design had not yet reached complete approval. A cupola topping the brick design was not pleasant to many.

In August, Millburn Township dropped to No. 7 place on the "wealthiest" list. Millburn Township's income was \$24,856.00 per annum, household. Last year it was No. 6. Millburn was followed by Shaker Heights, Ohio. This is the way Millburn spent its money:

Food \$12,012.00 General merchandise family house supplies 5,094.00  
Automobile 2,357.00 Drugs 1,460.00 Merchandise, general 3,933.00 =  
\$24,856.00

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## CHAPTER XXI.

1958-1976

### 1969

Ralph F. Batch, Chairman, Everett W. Vilett, Vice Chairman, William B. Gero, Streets and Sewers; Everett W. Vilett, Law, Finance, and Charities; Ralph F. Batch, Police; William C. Heilman, Fire Protection and Water Supply; John T. Reilly, Jr., Buildings and Lights.

Police Chief, Frank J. Stoeckle, filed his resignation effective December 31st of this year, concluding 44 years of service.

The 1969 real estate tax was raised to \$2.93 which would cause an increase of about \$140.00 in taxes on the average home.

Murray Klepsch was named new head of the Narcotics Control Commission.

Candace Johnstone of Sagamore Road won the National Silver Skates Dance Championship. Miss Johnstone, 12 years old, was the youngest skater ever to win the National title.

The worst snow storm of the Season fell on Sunday, February 14th, causing the closing of schools for two days, typing up traffic, and stopping mail deliveries.

As an aftermath of the excessive snow, both branches of the river flooded following their courses throughout the Town.

Two local students won Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Awards? Ruth Ann Borker and Matthew Geller, for which they received Foundation money. They were finalists in the competition of 11,704 candidates. Both were described as among the best future college teachers in the country. Dr. Harry Nyquist of Marion Avenue received the Foundation Medal of the National Academy of England in recognition of his many fundamental contributions to engineering. This is the 4th year of this Award. The Award is a comparatively new one having been created in 1966.

In March, a New Brunswick man, in what seemed to be a "Keystone Comedy Scenario" was arrested by Millburn Police. He had over \$6,554.00 on his person taken from the Millburn Branch of the Montclair National Bank and Trust Co.



Print

The old-style moving picture comedy developed from a bank robbery which took place here. The robber secured the money, but that must have been the only proud spot in his career. Rather, it was the beginning of his problems. As soon as he fled the Bank carrying his booty with him, the Millburn Police were alerted by a bank employee who remembered to step on the button which triggered the alarm in the Millburn Headquarters.

The thief was observed by employees, entering a light blue sedan, which information was also conveyed speedily to the Police. However, the thief had some trouble in starting his car, and was seen to be recklessly carrying what was eventually identified as a toy gun. When the car was at least moving he turned north into Myrtle Avenue which is a deadend street. However, this frustrating blockage was discovered by him. Turning away from that involved position, he next found himself behind "a little old lady", driving her car ahead of him, it was said, about 10 miles an hour, and no opportunity was offered for his being able to pass her. Finally, however, at the corner of Millburn and Wyoming Avenues, he did turn right.

On being alerted, Patrolman White went to the bank, received a description, and radioed the information back to Headquarters. Two sergeants were en route.

They saw the blue car waiting for another light to change, and that finally ended the mind-boggling old comedy. The Thief was secured and escorted to the Millburn Police Station. The booty was recovered in full.

On May And, Glen Avenue property owned by the Township was designated as a proposed site for a new Millburn Library, and was placed on the Township Master Plan.

The Master Plan was also amended to locate a new Police Headquarters on Essex Street, on property purchased by the municipality last year. Other sites considered were near the Senior High School on Millburn Avenue, and one site behind the High School.

95% of Senior High School graduates were accepted by colleges including four-year colleges, 111 of which were out of State.

Mayor Ralph F. Batch cited the following citizens for achievements and services:

John Murray, for many years of service to Millburn Patrolman, Edward Gallitelli William Fennimore William Matthews Robert White Sergeants Thomas, Thomas Carey, Frank Herman, and Harold Lacey. On May 29th, Rt. Rev. Bishop John J. Dougherty, President of Seton Hall University, resigned to

become Pastor of St. Rose of Lima R.C. Church, replacing Rev. Mgr. John F. Ryan who was retiring.

An advertisement in the local newspaper showed the price of food to be a little higher, but it had not yet reached 1976 prices:

Sirloin steak, 99¢ a pound Porterhouse steak, \$1.19 a pound Frankfurters, 68¢ Orange Juice, 5 cans for 89¢ Shrimp, 99¢ a pound A gallon of milk, 96¢ Whole wheat bread, 29¢ a loaf.

On Main Street, new apartment houses were planned with 20 families to be accommodated.

The Fourth of July Celebration was again a great success. Produced by the Millburn-Short Hills Fourth of July Committee, the program offered a Circus in the morning; a generous supply of mechanical rides, horses, and ponies for the afternoon with free popsicles, and in the evening music and fireworks to end the holiday.

A tornado like storm struck in July and damage throughout the Township amounted to about \$100,000. The Wyoming section was most severely damaged. Within minutes more than 100 trees were toppled or seriously damaged. Streets particularly suffering were Chestnut, Sagamore, Wyoming, and Mountain Avenues. [N.B.: the following three paragraphs essentially duplicate material found on pages 6-7 of 1968]

The new planned Police Headquarters, it was announced, may top \$500,000.00 not including the cost of the lot. An editorial in the Item held that while no one was pleased with the cost, nevertheless, the building must be built, and every delay would become a further increase in the price. It was estimated that the cost might rise to \$800,000.00, including the land and complete construction. The latest design had not yet received entire approval. A cupola topping the brick design was not pleasing to many.

In August, Millburn dropped to No. 7 place in the nation in the most wealthy list for the nation, followed by Shaker Heights, Ohio. Millburn Township income, averaged, was said to be \$24,856.00.

Another schedule was presented showing how Millburn spends its money:

Food, \$12,000.00; general merchandise, \$27,076.00; family house and supplies, \$5,094.00; auto, \$2,357.00; drugs, \$1,460.00.

The story was told that a citizen here, name withheld, by the newspaper, lights

up his Christmas tree every night of the year. He said, "I am tired of being pushed and shoved and slighted, and to cheer myself I light my tree every evening. This helps to make me feel that life is worth living."

Major Florence A. Zarnick was awarded the Bronze Award, one of the highest awards of the Army, upon her return to the United States from Vietnam where she cared for Vietnamese and Viet Cong prisoners of war, at \$74 (?), Field Hospital. In September, C. Thomas Thomas was officially and unanimously elected as the Republican nominee for Township Committeeman.

Dr. Jacob H. Oxman of the Rotary Club, presented to William Bolan, President of the Millburn Scholastic Boosters, its 1969 donation.

A poll was held among the subscribers to the Item to find out what the feeling was about extending the vote to 18 year olds. The result showed 162 for, 77 against, the change, and the vote in the High School was 64 for and 8 against.

The participation in the desire for a Vietnam moratorium was increasing in the Township. At the High School, students met to formulate a common Peace Communication, including getting signatures to petitions, distributing pamphlets, etc. By October more than 500 favoring the antiwar side of the question had been collected. More than 70 students assembled at the Millburn Railroad Station on October 23d, with lighted candles, to march to the Maplewood Railroad Station, there to join Maplewood students. Many citizens of Millburn augmented the crowd which was led by drummers.

On reaching Maplewood, the Group from Millburn, joining the South OrangeMaplewood students, assembled in Farrell Park where it was reported that a crowd of 2,000 spectators were present and participating in the meeting and movement.

In the November election, Committeeman C. Thomas Thomas came out on top with 4,558 votes, followed by Mr. Heilman with 4,433.

A National Architectural Award was presented by the the American Institute of Architects to Temple B'nai Jesurun, for its "outstanding design" by Gruzen Partners, formerly Kelly and Gruzen, Architects. The award cited that the building carried a "sense of grandeur, inside composure, and exterior scale and balancing."

Par 3, White Oak Ridge Park's new 9-hole Golf Course was completed.

On November 13th, \$1,600.00 in cash was taken from the Tax Collector's safe in the Town Hall. Vault had been checked at 5:05 p.m. All combinations have now been changed.

On November 20th the Millburn Library Trustees attempted to sell the idea of a new Library to a combined meeting of a number of community leaders, and the meeting ended by the Board's being urged to get started with the construction of a new library. It was said that the Board had been trying for a number of years to get a new library building, without encouragement. Mayor Batch rose to say that the Planning Board had approved a site for a new library on Glen Avenue. The Mayor said that it was possible, though, not surely, that an ordinance would be introduced before the first of the year. He thought it probable, however, that it might be necessary to acquire three houses in order to have room.

The Township, acting through the Library and the Planning Board, has more or less chosen a site on Glen Avenue, to have an entirely new and more spacious structure.

Cadet Diane Tully of Woodfield Drive was named to the Honor Squadron of the Cadet Officer Training School at Remstead Air Force Base, Nevada.

Cadet Captain Tully is the holder of several awards and honors received during her Air Force Training. She has also been an Honor Student at Ohio State University.

Guidelines were established for the Christmas observances in the high School? to include music appropriate to the Season, but not emphasized to such a degree as to be a manifestation of any particular dogma, creed, belief, or mode of worship.

Art Work may cover a wide range of subjects applicable to the Season and students may work on their own special interests. However, art to be displayed at School must meet some general requirements with respect to religion; with planned programs to be arranged so that students are not excluded from participation; all plans to be checked with the Superintendent of Schools.

Mayor Gero announced that a record leaf collection had been made on December 1st. Township had collected 1,100 truck loads of leaves, 400 more than last year.

Kim McDaniel received a perfect score on college boards both verbal and written; first Millburn student to achieve perfection. Less than 1% of those taking tests achieve perfect scores.

At a holdup at the Pathmark Store, Millburn, police killed a bandit and wounded a second; rescued hostages. Hostages were four civilians in the store and two policemen held as hostages. None were harmed. One policeman escaped

death when his gun in the hands of a bandit, misfired.

It happened that two more employees arrived at the store during the holdup; saw what was wrong and managed to get out and call the Police, which finally brought the criminals to account and the rescue of the innocent victims.

A Workshop on Drugs is scheduled to be held. The Workshop will be led by a Group Counsellor, a Social Worker, or a Psychologist.

A public hearing has been scheduled to consider a new budget of Twelve Million Dollars (\$12,000,000.00) instead of the more customary practice of its being adopted immediately.

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1970

Ralph F. Batch, Chairman and Mayor, Police and Law; Everett W. Vilett, Vice Chairman, Finance and Welfare; William G. Gero, Public Works and Engineering; William O. Heilman, Fire Protection and Water Supply; C. Thomas Thomas, Public Property, Building and Lighting.

Millburn Township, entering the 1970 Decade, Was a well managed, prosperous community. Its official population in 1970 was 21,150. Its geographical outlines encompassed an area of approximately 10 square miles.

Millburn Avenue, running through the main commercial section of the Township, was presented, almost suddenly, so unostentatiously had it been accomplished, a solid, handsome, and efficient business section and Township Administration area.

Moving up from the Maplewood border, generally known as "The Loop" once referring to the Public Service turnaround section, serving trolley cars which had a circular track there, Millburn Avenue crosses the east branch of the Rahway River, more or less just beyond the Loop, and then moves through the center of Millburn Township and up to the Springfield line at Morris Avenue.

A left turn at Millburn Avenue and Main Street provides another direct line to Morris Avenue, Springfield, at the corner of which stands the old Springfield Presbyterian Church, built about 1790, to replace the little church destroyed during the War.

The famous old "Hessian House" hiding place of the two boys serving in the British Army on June 20, 1780, who had come from Hesse (Germany), is still there, well cared for by its owners, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kahn. The story of the Hessian boys who remained in Millburn after their own troops had moved on, has been told in Chapter IX of this History.

At Millburn Avenue and Vauxhall Road, is Temple B'nai Israel, a modern religious edifice, designed by Percival Goodman, a nationally famous architect. The description of the building of this Temple and its great modern art painted by foremost new American painters, is included in Chapter XVII heretofore.

Millburn Avenue runs past two-story modern garden apartments on the left side above the Temple line, and on the opposite side of the street, the block now occupied by Lord and Taylor Department store, extends from Myrtle



Print



Avenue to Wyoming Avenue, including the store's landscaped parking lots. That site once held the old home of Aaron Hand, later became the home of Dr. Edward Whittingham, a beloved physician and a Civil War hero. The house was once suspected, too, of containing underground quarters to assist escaping slaves, but when it was demolished in 1945, no time was spent in verifying this tale.

Millburn Avenue is a two-way street until it reaches Essex Street. Northwest bound traffic curves one way to the right on Essex Street following along the railroad.

The traffic southeast on Millburn Avenue down from the Township Hall through the center of the town, moves from Douglas Street at the Town Hall through the center of the town to become again two ways at Millburn Avenue and the beginning of Essex Street.

On February 26th three drug usage workshops were scheduled: 1. Devoted to objective education; 2. Film re drugs and problems and to initiate dialogue; 3. Films and film strips.

March 5th ? Action to acquire property on Glen Avenue for the Library is anticipated by the Township Committee.

March 12th ? Use of the Glen Avenue property for a new library will be introduced on April 6th.

A first Drug session was scheduled for Monday, March 16th.

April 2nd ? Snow arrived on the Easter holiday. Action re library was put off to April 20th.

A burglary at the Sunoco Station, at Essex and Lackawanna netted about one hundred dollars, credit card sales receipts, and entrance gained through a rear window resulted in opening door and rolling out a one-hundred pound safe from the premises.

April 9th ? An 8-year old boy was crushed to death in the Glenwood School yard, when a huge concrete storm sewer rolled over the child. He was playing with classmates. The pipe had been placed on the grounds over five years ago.

The Recreation Commission numbers was increased to 7. Nancy Settlemyer and Joseph Mulcahy were appointed to fill the places, on Monday night at the Township Committee meeting.

The Township Committee announced that it was planned to start the new Police Building on June 1st on the estimate of \$869,000.00.

April 16th ? A few hundred people registered opposition to the Glen Avenue site for the new Library. The Township tax rate was increased to 3.25.

Frank Carrington was named by the Mayor to head a new Township Cultural heritage Committee as part of a State Committee.

May 14th ? Miss Elizabeth Farrar, Librarian since 1957 announced that she is leaving Millburn in order to return to Massachusetts to be near her family.

The argument as to Library location still goes on.

On May 21st it was announced that the cost covering a new Millburn Police Headquarters had soared again, this time to about \$913,856.00.

May 21st ? Millburn High School Science Teacher, Fred Blumenfeld wins one of the National honors to outstanding science teachers. In 1966 the same honor had been won by Leonard Blessing, a teacher here at that time.

October ? Police Headquarters bids for contract for construction of headquarters on Essex Street, averaged about \$1,125,000.

October 29th ? Under 70% of voters went to the polls, possibly less than 65%. William R. Rawson was high man for the Township Committee position.

On November 5th a report promised that the library site would be decided by November 16th?either Glen Avenue or the site occupied by the old Millburn Avenue School opposite the Township Hall.

November 21st ? 7 burglaries and two supermarket shoplifters were reported.

December 5th ? A reception was held for Seymour Kruger, the new librarian selected to replace Miss Farrar.

The fight goes on covering the library site?the latest is for part of the High School property. If the Library site cannot be arrived at very soon, it will be announced by Mayor Batch that no further action will be taken this year.

End of Year 1970 Review by Item

Ralph F. Batch and Everett W. Vilett were elected this year to their 8th

consecutive terms as Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Board of Education tentatively adopted a 1970-1971 school budget with an 8 to 10% increase in amount to be spent.

Millburn Conservation Committee recommended that the Township Committee no longer permit property owners to rake leaves into the street.

The Township Committee on a 4 to 1 vote approved the annual theatre license of the Millburn Cinema on the terms that the Theatre would not show pictures here primarily designed to appeal to the prurient interests of viewing. One "no" vote was cast.

17 Township residents announced the formation of an organization to be known as "Millburn Short Hills Friends of the Library". Mrs. Ira Barbash was named head.

A 30 to 35 point increase in taxes was forecast for the 1970 calendar year.

One incumbent and two newcomers were elected to the Board of Education and approved. They were: Carl W. Klemme, Eugene T. O'Toole, Malcolm D. MacKinnon, and James D. Wallace.

Dr. Robert Van Houten was elected President of the Board of Trustees of the Library succeeding Samuel C. Williams who retired.

Robert C. MacQueen was elected to second term as President of the Board of Education. Harry L. Edgecomb to second term as Vice President.

The gunman who was critically wounded in the Pathmark Store holdup in December was removed from the critical list.

Irving Riker, a wellknown citizen of Millburn and a lawyer, died on Saturday, at the end of the 1969 year.

The Paper Mill Playhouse presented this month a play, "Your own Thing", which was the result of a telephone call from San Juan, Puerto Rico, at a cost of \$352.00 plus tax. The author is a theatrical producer in New York and negotiations were made with Mr. Carrington for the Paper Mill Playhouse appearance.

Mayor Batch in his speech on January 8th spoke of the negotiations for a new library; also the importance of flood control as soon as possible, and the necessity of offstreet parking. Two new policemen were appointed bringing

Millburn within one man of the authorized strength required by the Township Committee.

On January 15th ice skating was possible in Taylor Park, a great treat for young and old which does not come too often.

On the 15th, too, another discussion was held covering the plans for a new library and the possibility of selecting a site on Glen Avenue.

On January 22nd an additional school budget required an increase of \$50,000.00, setting a new figure of \$6,145,052.88 said to be necessitated by the increased cost of insurance and other necessary expenditures.

The Millburn Short Hills Item was cited in four separate categories at the 48th annual Institute of the New Jersey Press Association; that is, general excellence, content and general layout; topography; front page layout. Carter Bennett's column "Cabbages and Kings" was also cited.

A decrease in fires was shown in the report made by Chief Partington. In 1968, the number of fires reported was 1,089; in 1969, 833 fires were answered; false alarms dropped also.

Mary Louise Sprague was elected President of Quality Weeklies of New Jersey. Mrs. Sprague is Publisher of the Item of Millburn and Short Hills.

On January 29th a 30-35 point rise in Township tax was expected. School costs were up about \$45,725.00.

on February 5th the Township Committee set the tax rate at 3.26.

School Board Balloting on February 12th produced the following votes:

Eugene T. O'Toole 1774 Carl W. Klemme 1723 Malcolm D. MacKinnon 1498

Three high school boys, 17 years old, were held on drug charges for pep pills.

Dr. Victor Parsonnet, was one of a two-man team admitted to a heart research project granted by the National Advisory Heart Council, value of Grant \$53,380.00.

February 19th ? two high school students tied as valedictorian ?Kimberly McDaniel and Jeffrey Sturchio.

The Township announced that it was eliminating the Spring and Autumn

## Cleanup Week.

The Township Committee after receiving a second petition of 192 names opposing the solution of the Glen Avenue site for the Library, announced that it would postpone decision.

The Township Committee introduced an ordinance providing for issuance of \$366,000.00 in bonds to provide funds for the construction of the new Police building. Last year the Committee had provided for a \$790,000.00 bond issue.

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1971

Township Committee 1971 ? Ralph F. Batch, Chairman and Mayor, Police and law; William O. Heilman, Vice Chairman, Fire Protection William Rawson, Finance and Welfare; William B. Gero, Public Works and Engineering; C. Thomas Thomas, Public Property, Building and Lighting.

The first in the series of six drug seminar sessions was held on January 15th at the Millburn High School, under the auspices of the Millburn Narcotics Commission. The object of the meeting was to bring to citizens the importance of the subject; its dangers, and particularly the ease with which an addiction could be acquired by young people unaware of its potentials.

The Police Department headed by Mayor Batch is planning to increase the efficiency of the Department's service to the community. Among other things is the intention to institute Police Radio dispatches, and also the overhauling and improvements of parking facilities.

The first public meeting of the Millburn Township Cultural Heritage Committee was held at the Paper Mill Playhouse in January with Maurice Eisenberg its guest of honor. The principal speaker was Dr. Thelma M. Sandburg, a school principal of Springfield, who presented in her talk the work being done now in Springfield to locate and mark historic buildings and to bring to young students an awareness of their heritage.

Millburn High School opened its season with a football game with Madison in which Millburn came out victor with a score of 94-67.

More than 7 tons of glass were collected by the Girl Scouts in the first Township glass collection.

New clothes styles were pictured in the Item. The "in" thing today appeared to be a long cotton tweed skirt with a peasant blouse.

The Millburn High School Wrestling team opened the season with two impressive wins at Summit.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mulcahy reported a record catch of fish while on vacation in Florida. Three marlins were caught with weights of 130, 126 and 125 pounds respectively.



Print

Mr. Gustav E. Wiedenmayer, Chairman of the National Newark and Essex Bank, was the recipient of the year's award of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The presentation was made by Dr. Ely E. Pilchik of Temple B'nai Jeshurun.

The Millburn Short hills Arts Center added to its interests, a group engaged in the study of Antiques. Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Warnock and Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Jones were elected officers.

On January 28th the Millburn tax rate rose to a new figure of 3.53, a 28 point rise. A standing room only was the condition at the meeting at which the new rate was passed.

Jim Dykema was recognized as one of the High School's top musicians. He will represent Millburn in the coming meeting of the all Eastern Orchestra.

The Millburn First Aid Squad celebrated its 12th annual meeting at a dinner dance held at the end of January. Ralph Conn passed the gavel over to Fritz Bogerhausen.

Patrolmen Crescenzo Lepore and Olaf Anderson received citations for valor in thwarting the Pathmark holdup here on December 29th. Both had been held as hostages, but escaped and assisted in the capture of one bandit. A second escaped, but was killed by a policeman's bullet.

Mrs. Nancy Settlemyer received the 1971 award for Americanism from the Millburn Short Hills B'nai Brith organization.

Winners in the Annual Board of Education election were:

Dr. Jerome Horowitz, 2412 votes Mrs. Ira Barbash, 2037 votes Gerald McGinley, 1612 votes

In February a plea for more funds for the Millburn Public Library was turned down.

In May a Charter Study Slate was named to begin a study of its advantages and disadvantages. Appointed were Earl Cryer, Peter Hager, Dan Moore, Fred Rathgraber, and Mrs. Selma Rosen, in order to accommodate suggestions, place the question on the November ballot, and educate citizens as to its meaning and importance.

A serious fire at the Recreation House during the early morning of May 2nd caused so much damage to its interior that extensive repairs had to be made.

It was thought that the fire might have been underway for two hours before it could be detected. It was believed that faulty wires had caused it. The first Recreation House had been built near Main Street, now used by the Girl Scouts, but in 1934 a larger stone house was built in the center of the park. However, after the fire with Federal aid, a much larger stone house was built in the center of the Park. Since then further additions and enlargement have produced a very adequate building for recreational facilities, meetings for many organizations of the Township, and social uses for applicants. It also serves for many educational aims and purposes.

The Par 3 Golf Course in White Oak Ridge opened on June 12th and has been very popular. A small membership fee is charged to cover some expenses.

On May 20th it was stated in the paper that the 1971 tax rate was the lowest in the county. It was set at 3.72 which was a 47 point jump, but nevertheless held the county record for the lowest rate.

Robert Silver, an 8-year old boy died in a fall of 130 feet from the south face of Washington Rock in the Reservation.

Susan Diamond was selected from among over 400 applicants to be one of the 40 national students to participate in an oceanographic program at San Diego in a six-weeks summer program at the University of California.

295 graduates of Millburn high School out of 331 graduates had elected to continue their education after graduation.

George W. Wickersham, a Maplewood resident, 30 years old, a ticket agent at Millburn Railroad Station, was shot and killed at the station office on September 2nd. A probe was begun immediately and two suspects were arrested within a week.

Doris, a tropical storm, arrived in September and caused damages of about \$1,138,000.00. many cellars in Millburn and Maplewood were flooded. Many residents on Cypress Street had to be evacuated, and residents in apartments over stores on Millburn Avenue had to be helped from their homes. A number of cars at "Rent a Car" at Millburn were submerged. However, a visit of thieves took advantage of the storm, removed a number of car keys and stole cars. A car on Route 24 near Hobart, was totally submerged and could not be found for a time. Eventually highway construction men were able to tow it out, but the car was a total loss. Millburn Avenue at Cypress Street became a lake temporarily.

On September 22nd Mayor Batch announced that he would retire at the end of the year. He was honored at a Testimonial Dinner at the Chanticleer on October



15th.

A survey by Representative Florence P. Dwyer showed that the three big issues concerned Environmental Protection; opposition to War, and Concern for the health of the Economy.

Another survey by the League of Women Voters showed that most people of the Township could give the name of the Mayor, but most could not identify the State Senator, and almost none of the 80 persons asked could name any of the Senators or Assemblymen elected in the November election.

In the November election the top men were Alexander Lyon, 4847 votes, William B. Gero, 4591 votes.

On December 9th, William V. White became new Fire Chief after 37 years of service with the Department, replacing Chief John J. Partington. Mr. White had become a Township resident at the age of 7 years. Mayor Ralph Batch conducted his last meeting as a member of the Township Committee at the end of the year and received a standing ovation from the audience, and a fervent expression of good-wishes from the members of the Township Committee.

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## CHAPTER XXI. 1958-1976

### 1972

Township Committee: William O. Heilman, Chairman, Mayor and Fire Commissioner, William Rawson, Finance and Welfare; William B. Gero, Public Works and Engineering; C. Thomas Thomas, Police Commissioner, Alexander Lyon, Public Property, Building and Lighting

January 6th: School costs have been increased by \$448,223.00. A \$2,463,093.00 budget in 1972-3 School Year, represented an increase of \$448,000.00. The budget was introduced by the Board of Education on Monday. If the adoption is approved it would result in a 10-point rise in the school tax rate.

The gavel was passed to William G. Heilman by John W. Pritchard on New Year's Day, as a symbol of the office of Mayor. Mr. Heilman will be Chairman of the Township Committee.

The Township will receive the Millburn Avenue School Property opposite the Township Hall for \$1.00 from the Board of Education, if the Ordinance is adopted on January 17th. If it does not, any future rights would revert to the Board of Education. The question is posed?what could the land be used for??a Library? a Parking Lot?, a sale of land to gain a new tax ratable??if the latter will the proceeds be paid to the School Board?

A special hearing was held re the Brookhaven tract of 6.6 acres. The Planning board had once considered it as a construction site. Last November, the Township Committee vacated the Planning Board action and adopted an ordinance authorizing placing 4.2 acres in Green Acres, and providing \$77,000.00 for acquisition. The whole tract is set at \$200,000.00. Judge Fulop will rule on the question of whether the Township was within its rights not to set aside the Planning Board ruling.

Two new electrically operated sluice gates are planned for Taylor Park with the idea of preventing the recurrence of the floods which resulted when the mechanically operated gates had been closed by unauthorized persons last August during heavy storms.

Five awards were given to five houses for unusual Christmas decorations. Homes receiving were 32 Spencer Drive and 41 Wordsworth Drive, both, respectively, effective overall decorations; best animated decoration, Richard Rick, 14 Wordsworth Road, best door; Louis Hess, 50 Wordsworth Road,



Print

Kenneth Washburne, 50 Canoe Brook Road, best evergreen and lighting arrangement.

The Millburn Adult School is to add a class in "Chinese Cooking" at the new term. Mrs. Yuk Thai Thayer of Canton will give the course. She will explain the cultural background and customs of each dish. Items to be included, among others, are Beef in Oyster Sauce, Snow Peas; Lychee with pork; fried rice, butterfly shrimp, egg rolls, Peking duck.

Daniel J. Hussey took over as President of the Old Guard. Mr. Hussey had behind him 40 years of service to the Standard Oil, including work in Aruba, Dutch West Indies, Indonesia, Iran, and Germany. Mr. Hussey is a member of the Cultural Heritage Committee of Millburn, appointed by Chairman Frank Carrington.

Two former High School students, Miss Mary Schultz and Vincent Padula, have become teachers of Transcendental Meditation. Miss Schultz studied at Kent Place School and at Rhode Island School of Design. Mr. Padula has studied two years at Upsala and plans to return to college when his work in Transcendental Meditation is completed.

A large crowd attended a meeting for the discussion of the acquisition of 4.2 acres at Brookhaven area for Green Acres.

A Charter Studies Course at Rutgers was attended by two Millburn citizens ? William B. Rawson and Dr. Ernest C. Reock, Jr., Director of the Bureau of Government research at Rutgers.

On January 27th a number of trees came down in a severe storm here, particularly affecting Taylor Street and Main Street adjacent to St. Stephen's Church.

On February 3d, Dr. Charles T. King was given a party to mark two anniversaries; one, the celebration of his 10 years as Superintendent of Schools of Millburn, and the other marking his 25th year in the local school system.

The Arboretum announced a number of lectures to be offered: including Model Rocketry; two gourmet cooking classes for Junior and Senior High School students; also, 5 workshops entitled "Your Green Thumb", and "The Joys and Rigors of Hiking."

Richard D. Nelson was elected Chairman of the Shade Tree Commission.

Chairman of the Millburn Conservation Committee, Estill Greene, recommended that the Township explore with the utmost expedition, every possibility of acquiring at reasonable expense all or a major part of the Brookhaven area.

The Millburn Adult School has added courses in Dramatics and Pottery.

A salary boost of 6.5% was proposed for teachers.

The Millburn Short Hills Community Fund, the first combination campaign, fell a little short of the goal of \$130,000.00. The actual collection amounted to \$114,307.00.

The Board of Education election was held on February 10th and elected were Harry L. Edgecomb, President, Malcolm Sturchio, and William J. Ivey. Vice President is Carl W. Klemme.

The rustic wooden street signs of Short Hills are being phased out and standardized markings approved by the State Department of Transportation substituted.

It was announced that the new Township Teen Arts Festival is scheduled to start in Trenton on May 1st to the 5th. Millburn will be participating and work selected at the exhibition at the High School on March 24th will be exhibited. The chairman was Mrs. William Wallace, and the Exhibition is sponsored by the State Department of Education, the State Museum, and the New Jersey Council of the Arts. The slogan selected was "New Art by the Now People."

On March 2nd the Township appealed the decision in the Brookhaven Swamp matter. The Court decision set a land value of \$200,000. on the swamp property and option value of \$24,000.00 on the contract held by Carl Schroth.

A hope for a new Library was expressed in the report of the Board of Trustees, and that concrete steps would be taken this year for a new building. The report states that a larger and more efficient library is necessary to provide citizens of Millburn with services they need and deserve. The "Friends of the Library" is headed by Dan McMullen.

On March 9th eight people were seized in a home here on Sagamore Road, and held on Narcotics Charges in what the Police describe as a "Drug party". Four were 19 years old, and one 18. They will appear in Court to face charges. The eight persons arrested were in possession of drugs and under their influence. Arrests were made by 9 policemen, led by Detective Wallace. Three girls were taken to Overlook Hospital for examination and one was admitted. The drug was thought to be Methaqualone.

On April 6th the annual Easter Egg Hunt was held in Taylor Park and well-attended. It was obviously greatly enjoyed by the youngsters present.

The Town demands action on the Police Building. Architect Emil Schmidlin promises to pressure contractors and workers to complete the work as soon as possible, as the planned date for completion has already been passed.

On May 4th, the Girl Scouts worked on the lots around the Railroad Station and succeeded in having several truck loads of litter removed and accomplished a very pleasant cleanup result. Girl Scout leaders supervised.

Only three persons were contending for the Township Committee seats: C. Thomas Thomas, Mrs. Dorothy Sudy, and William Ohaus. The winners in the election were Mr. Thomas, 2100 votes, Mr. Ohaus, 1874 votes.

Millburn firemen assisted 14 persons in escaping from a burning building in Elizabeth, and were commended by the City of Elizabeth. John Buckley led three children down burning stairs. His action resulted in 14 persons getting out of the building in time. Fire Chief William White announced it and the Elizabeth Fire Chief commended Millburn firefighters. Chief White was off duty and was out driving when he saw smoke emerging from the building. He left his car, pulled a firealarm, box, and rushed into the building to alert residents. After the fire, Mr. Buckley left the scene without giving his identity in Elizabeth. Elizabeth Chief Burns called Chief White to find out who was the man so that he could be appropriately thanked.

On May 18th, once again, boys had to be rescued from the South Mountain cliff. The West Orange boys were removed from their perilous perch on the face of Washington Rock. The Millburn Fire Department sent a truck, and a rescue unit to the top of the cliff. Battalion Chief Lawrence Zazzera and Fireman John Buckley, and Harry Sanford lowered ropes to reach the ledge where the boys were waiting and very frightened. The rescuers talked to the boys to calm them. The firemen then passed two ropes and life belts and shouted instructions. They were then pulled up to safety. One boy went to St. Barnabas Hospital for treatment for slight wounds. The rescue was the second for Fireman Buckley in three weeks.

On June 8th a sudden and very violent storm arrived. It toppled several trees, one falling on a house roof and others on power lines.

A new library cost estimate was raised from \$980,000.00 to \$1,100,000.00.

The Board of Education returned to the system of a fulltime principal in each elementary school for 1972-3.

Another freak storm struck the Township cutting a path through Maplewood, Millburn, and Summit. The lightning struck twice and brought darkness in many sections. The Meadowbrook Section was the hardest hit by this storm. High winds felled large trees and about 250 homes were affected because of electrical troubles.

Since 1968, Mrs. Richard Strong, mother of four, and a former nurse, has been affected by multiple sclerosis. However, she wrote a book, although at times she could not spell or type or hold a pencil. However, in her periods of remission which came at times, she finished her book, "The Curse of the Wyler Women"?stories her grandfather had told her about the Appalachian South Kentucky territory.

June 15th ? The Township considered the purchase of part of Peter Blanchard's land, about 25 acres, at \$1,504,000.00 a value set by two independent appraisers. Mr. Blanchard said that he proposed, if the deal went through, to give acreage to the Township of between 10 and 20 acres of land, from a point off Old Hollow Road to the South Mountain Reservation. He would make gifts at intervals of additional acreage which would have the effect of reducing the cost per acre.

Application for grants of \$1,491,915.00 for the purchase of about 36 acres has been forwarded to the State and Federal Agency. Two appraisals firms employed by the Township will be consulted to establish the value of 35 acres, coming up to \$1,504,100.00, and \$1,437,500.00.

July 27, 1972 ? The Paper Mill Playhouse has an exhibition of four famous local painters (now deceased)?Edward Dufner, E. Stanley Turnbull, VanDearing Perrine and Antoinette Scudder. The National Academy loaned a few of them. The Show opened September 13th. All artists had been residents of Millburn.

On August 14th the Police prepared to move to the new quarters.

In October, 23 high School students won commendations for their very high performances in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

October 26th ? Hallowe'en Parade. The 22nd annual event sponsored by the Fire Department has been named for Edward J. O'Brien in honor of the late Battalion Chief. His widow will be the Honorary Grand Marshal for the Battalion Chief. Chief O'Brien had organized the Parade and had been General Chairman for 19 years.

November 9th ? The vote for change to Charter government lost by 2,197

votes.

The Township gave Mr. Blanchard the ultimatum to sell the property for which they have been negotiating, or face condemnation proceedings. The Township offered to buy the land for \$1,500,000, free of any restrictions other than those now existing. Otherwise, it will proceed on condemnation to secure the property in question without any restrictions other than those with which the property is currently burdened. Later Mr. Blanchard lifted the questionable restrictions in an apparent change of mind. The decision was announced at the Monday night Township Committee meeting, on November And. Mr. Blanchard telephoned and informed the Committee of his decision.

Mr. Blanchard lifted all restrictions imposed by him only a month ago. He said he would agree to sell to the municipality one-half of his 70 acres for \$1,500,000.00 dollars.

The Board of Education voted against closing any Township Schools during the 1972-3 school year.

Donald C. Sambrook, President of the Wyoming Association was chosen by the Township Commissioners to succeed William R. Rawson, who was retiring, on the Township Committee.

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## CHAPTER XXI.

1958-1976

**1973**

Mayor C. Thomas Thomas, William G. Ohaus, Alex B. Lyon, Jr., William B. Gero, Donald C. Sambrook

On January 4th, Marc, 8 years old, son of the Assistant Tax Assessor, while waiting for his father to finish his work and start noun together, went on an exploration trip in the large hall of the Township Hall. On investigation he found that the big safe which had stood in the hall for many years was unlocked. The safe contained old maps, and a few odds and ends never used, or even looked at. The boy's father said that never in all the years he had worked there had he ever seen it locked. He called to his son and eventually heard sounds from inside the safe. He sought help, but no one could be found who knew anything about opening it. The firemen were called, and were about to use a torch when John Pritchard arrived on the scene. He was sure he had the combination, and in no time at all, the combination proved accurate and the safe was opened, and the boy emerged unharmed.

The Township Committee adopted a resolution honoring Dr. Robert W. Van Houten for 13 years of service to the Library Board, three years of which he had spent as its President.

The Township Committee accepted officially a gift of a 5-acre tract of land in the Blanchard Estate. Mr. Blanchard made the gift as part of his plan to donate other acreage in the tract.

At the Paper Mill Playhouse Gloria Swanson was the star in "Butterflies are Free". As the play started, Gloria Swanson drew a blank and was unable to say her lines. However, soon after, the Star's look of anguish was accompanied by a sympathetic response from her audience, and almost immediately the Star recovered and the show went on.

A number of Township residents participated in a "Protest" against Vietnam, leaving by special bus at 6 a.m. on January 20th for Washington to join in the "Peace March" there. They returned in the evening. The Peace Center here was located at 147 Maplewood Avenue, Maplewood, where the crowd gathered and to which they returned that night.

Jon Morrow Lindberg was the Speaker at the Annual Fund Raising Lecture for the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum. His topic was "Man Dives Deep". The lecture was held at the High School Auditorium. Mrs. Arthur F. Goat was Chairman of



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the Committee. Mr. Lindberg is a specialist in underwater diving and construction of diving equipment and technicolor, and also has designed a system to gather parts of sunken submarines from 10,000 feet below the surface.

Recently the new organization CLEAN (Citizens League Environmental Action Now) brought impressive evidence of the result of its first drive, collecting for recycling:

300 tons of newspapers 157 tons of glass 3,700 lbs. of aluminum

The second story hour is scheduled to open in the Library, for 4 year olds, on Monday, January 22; admission to be "first come first served" application basis.

The second Teen Arts Festival sponsored by the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills, the Millburn-Short Hills Arts Center the Junior and Senior Schools P. T. A., and with the support of the Millburn Board of Education, is scheduled to open March 17th.

The second story hour for four year olds, will open in the Library on Monday, January 22nd. Audience will be admitted by application on the first come first served basis.

The dedication of the new Taylor Park Recreation House is scheduled for April 1st A brief dedication ceremony will take place followed by open house. Recreation Commissioner Nancy Settlemyer is in charge of the ceremonies.

The temperature here on Sunday, January 25th was a record breaker. It was well in the 60's for most of the day.

Arthur Spiegelman succeeds Dr. Robert W. Van Houten on the Library Board. Dr. Van Houten has resigned after many years of service there.

January 25th ? The Millburn-Short Hills Volunteer First Aid Squad, celebrated its 14th anniversary. It has provided 365 days a year around the clock service, and also has given numberless first aid courses. Placques were presented to William Dambach and Vice President Mrs. Daniel Price. Two living charter members still serving were also given placques. They were E. F. Gobershauser and William Manrodt.

The Montclair Art Museum honored James H. Dougherty, 83 years old, showing 30 of his paintings produced since 1914, and also Stanton MacDonald Wright.

On February 15th three new members were elected to the Board of Education: Jane Purcell, Frederick A. Coombs, III, and Carl A. Mann.

on February 22nd additional rehabilitation alterations were recommended for Short Hills Elementary School, Junior High School, and Senior High School, to cost 5 to 7 million dollars.

The Township Hall announced on March 1st that the 1973 tax rate was not expected to rise above the 1972 rate of 3.89.

The 1973 tax rate promises to contain a 7-point drop.

The Teen Arts Festival in Millburn High School opened with 200 entries? containing sculpture, painting, graphics, and Acts in the Performing Arts Field.

Taylor Park was formally dedicated on April 1st.

The New Jersey Bicentennial Plans are being formed for 1976, the 200th anniversary. No definite announcements are available yet.

April 5th ? The Blanchard Tract adjoining Old Short Hills Road will be named "Old Short Hills Park" if final approval is passed.

Dedication ceremonies for the Community Center in Taylor Park were held on Sunday, April 1st. Dr. Warren Gray delivered the principal speech. The keys were passed to Jay H. Robley Saunders, architects, by construction company? the Paley Construction Co.?who then passed them over to the Mayor C. Thomas Thomas.

July 5th a heavy flash flood injured a policeman. Many basements were clogged and many traffic arteries were overflowing. Police and firemen were forced to spend many hours untangling street troubles. 18 persons were rescued by boat from the Medical Buildings at 116-130 Millburn Avenue, placed on higher ground and then picked up by the Red Cross Motor Corps and taken to its headquarters, eventually taken to their homes or homes of nearby friends and relatives. Taxis were also used to distribute them to other destinations.

Dr. Charles T. King notified the Board of Education of his desire to retire no later than August 31, 1974.

August 23d ? The Township made the final decision that it will begin to pick up wastepaper starting September 27th. Newspapers will be included, unglazed magazines, miscellaneous other clean paper and "junk" mail, at no charge to

residents. The paper collected will be disposed of at the Whippany Paper Board Company.

August 30th ? More than \$316,000.00 in Federal flood funds has been committed to Millburn Township, Mr. Gero announced. The decision was made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers following a day long tour of flood-damaged homes and other buildings.

September 20th ? The first step toward building a new library was taken by the Township Committee Monday night with the engagement of Architect Thaddeus Longstroth of Princeton. Mr. Longstroth would be employed to draw plans for a building on a site which has not been revealed, but seemed to have no opposition. Later, Committeeman Lyons made it known that the site was to be on Glen Avenue.

October 4th ? A capital budget of \$7,500,000.00 was approved by the Committeemen, for work to be done during the next five years:

The new item would be the Library; Next of importance is the improvement of roads and drainage in the Short Hills area; Land to be acquired for important facilities; Drainage projects needed at North and South ponds; A waste transfer station may be authorized, but no construction is anticipated before 1974; \$478,000.00 appropriated for road construction and reconstruction over several years; Glenwood drainage project; Expenses entailed by Township garage on Essex Street; Additional parking in Township Center; A parking area and driveway in Old Short Hills Park; Repair of Rahway River walls adjacent to East Willow Street; Construction of a storm culvert at Chatham Road.

October 11th ? Bicentennial Commissioners appointed by Governor Cahill are Milford O. Vieser and Hon. Alexander B. Lyon, Jr.

November 8th ? Brendan Byrne captures all 15 districts of Millburn, or 5,134 votes. For only the second time in more than a century, Millburn entered the Democrat ranks, Tuesday, as it voted for the Gubernatorial candidates. Brendan Byrne won by a 2 to 1 margin over Republican Charles W. Sandman, Jr.

November 21st ? The sum of \$1,500,000.00 was planned for a Library on a first reading. It appeared to be satisfactory that the building be erected on Glen Avenue bordering on entries to the Municipal Parking Lot #9, 160 feet west of Lackawanna Place.

Summary of 1973 yearend news:

In January, C. Thomas Thomas was sworn in as mayor, succeeding William O.

Heilman, Esq.

Jesse W. Bole retired as welfare Director.

In February teachers were granted a salary increase of 6.5% in the elementary schools. Mayor Thomas appointed a study unit to consider possible uses of the Township's new recreation area?the Blanchard property.

The Chief of Police announced in a talk here that there had been a decrease of 9.1% in crime in the Township in the first nine months of 1973, while rate in the County and in the State was on a rise.

Alfred R. Wentworth of Short Hills has been named the head of the Moscow office of the Chase Manhattan Bank. He is the first American to set up an office there in 50 years.

The Blanchard tract has been renamed "Old Short Hills Park."

Local shoppers join the National meat boycott with stores here reporting buying off about 30%. The Short Hills Garden Club celebrated its 65th birthday and also its 60th anniversary as a Founding Club of the Garden Clubs of America.

The first Union pact with Township employees is granted by the Township Committee with the New Jersey Civil Service Association the Bargaining Agent.

In June, Harris B. Siegel was named Principal of Millburn High School. Mr. Siegel comes from Framingham, Massachusetts.

The Board of Education for the second time rejects a request from Mayor Thomas that it sell the Millburn Avenue School to the Township.

Theodore Widmayer died in July. He had been Township Clerk for over 35 years before his retirement in August, 1974.

A wing flap from an airplane fell on a lawn in Short Hills without causing any damage, except normal soil damage.

The Township bonds were rated AAA by Moody's and AA by Standard and Poor.

In August the fire siren on the Town Hall is silenced after 63 years.

In September the First Aid Squad holds an open house for its new ambulance? a 1973 custom built Cadillac Superior.

Enrollment in schools falls lower than the conservative estimate in 1973-4.

The Township protested plans for a parking lot in Taylor Park.

November ? Business property owners protest assessment for improvement of the Rahway River between Essex Street and Millburn Avenue.

Wyoming Presbyterian Church begins the celebration of its 100th year.

For the second time in more than a century, Millburn Township enters the Democratic ranks as it votes for the Gubernatorial candidate, Brendan Byrne.

Millburn football team triumphs over Madison in the traditional Thanksgiving Day game.

December ? Mrs. Eleanor Barbash announced her candidacy for election to the Board of Education.

David Fern, head of the supermarket chain and a familiar figure to two generations of Township residents, died.

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## **CHAPTER XXI.**

### **1958-1976**

#### **1974**

Township Committee: Mayor C. Thomas Thomas, William B. Gero, Alexander Lyon, Jr., William G. Ohaus, and Donald C. Sambrook.

On January 1, 1974, Donald C. Sambrook took his oath for the first full term with the Township Committee. Mr. Sambrook completed the unexpired term of William A. Rawson.

Plans for the possible study of uses of Short Hills Park will assist Township officials in coming to some conclusions in discussing the property with the Kinsey Associates of Livingston who are making a survey of the tract. The survey shows that Peter Blanchard recently gave the Township a deed for a little more than one acre to increase the tract which Mr. Blanchard gave the Township last year. The land abuts property of the South Mountain Reservation.

The Township took title to the other tract last year after obtaining over half the purchase price from the Federal Government and the Green Acres Program. The price will come to about 1.5 million dollars.

Millburn High School team of wrestlers had a successful year.

After a long series of conferences with members of the Juvenile Code, Mrs. Marcia R. Richman of Short Hills, and other members of the Juvenile Delinquency Committee, approved the revised code which had been signed by Governor Cahill.

Edmund Denburg of Kean Road is Chairman of the 32nd annual Exhibition of Printing for the Printing Industry of Metropolitan New York and New Jersey, with more than 33,000 entries.

On January 17, 1974, Mr. Carter Bennett, Editor of the Millburn Short Hills Item, was elected President of "Quality Weeklies" representing more than 50 newspapers of New Jersey.

Miss Anne Kennelly, 14 years of age, saved the life of Ellen Grosman of 14 Birchwood Lane, from being burned to death, possibly. Miss Grosman had caught fire from an outdoor fireplace, but Miss Kennelly using mouth to mouth resuscitation restored her. She had learned the method at a Red Cross Course



Print

in First Aid Techniques. Miss Kennelly received a commendation from Mayor C. Thomas Thomas. The First Aid Course had recently been given by the Millburn-Short Hills Red Cross.

Deerfield School has an unique cultural art exhibition under the direction of Miss Helen Scherer. The new program has the object of coordinating new ideas of art projects with classroom academic activities. Discovering human relationships between various disciplines is encouraged.

Preliminary classes made terra cotta hanging planters and will grow their own plants in the pottery they have created.

Fourth graders have created their own abacuses. They made colorful frames used for counting purposes, with cardboard, and wires and pretty beads, and even old jewelry. Participation in creating and organizing mathematical concepts with material objects took on new depths and understanding

In the 6th Grade, Renaissance Culture was studied, particularly stained glass windows. Fragments of plastic were used as basic media. Students researched basic original designs for stained glass windows, and studied the importance of symbols as reflecting social and cultural implications. The goal was to expand the student's concepts and creativity.

Miss Martha Kirkbridge Currier died on January 6th. Mrs. Currier was a close friend of Mrs. Arthur Terry, founder of "New Eyes". She had been active with the organization since its beginning in 1932. She was Secretary of the New Eyes organization for nine years, and had introduced or assisted in many of the projects of the organization, including home sorting. She was the author of the "History of the Seeing Eye Institution", and besides her official office duties, she prepared talks, and assisted in organizing the jewelry collections as a means of helping in the financial funding.

Mrs. Gaetana Cesario Pasquale died at the age of 103 years, after a short illness. She lived at 49 Baltusrol Way. In a recent interview Mrs. Pasquale had stated that she believed in moderation in all things, but was not limited in her diet or activities.

Mrs. Eleanor Barbash, won a second term on the Board of Education, with Lucretia Reich a first term, and Gerald J. Wachs, a first term.

In February the Short Hills Country Day School and the Pingry School, formerly of Elizabeth, merged to take effect July 1st, and to become coeducational, to be known as Pingry School, Short Hills campus, Country Day, Short Hills.

Harry L. Edgecomb was elected President of the Board of Education, and Eleanor Barbash, Vice President.

The Millburn Paper Mill Playhouse won 10 of the First Annual New Jersey Drama Critics Awards. Frank Carrington received "Best Producer of a Play". "No, No, Annette" (?) received Best Production award; also best Technical Effects, Stage Designing, Choreography, best supporting actress, best direction, and best leading actress. Sada Thompson received "best actress" in a major role. Noted, too, were excellence in Technical Effects, Stage Design, Choreography, and other technical excellences.

On March 7th, for the first time here, girls were admitted to the Little League Baseball games in playing positions.

In accordance with State approval, a Bicentennial Committee was formed here to plan and provide suitable ceremonies to honor the coming Bicentennial year of 1976. Professor Gerhard O. W. Mueller was named Chairman with his original Executive Committee, Frank Carrington, Harvey Kahn, Hon. Alex B. Lyon, Jr., Marian K. Meisner, Police Chief W. P. Tighe, Malcolm Warnock, and Walter H. White. On Dr. Mueller's resignation because of change of residence, Doctor William Barr became Chairman.

In March at a meeting of the Board of Education, the future of the Junior High School Building became an important question. The decision for a new building was rejected, but the question of the renovation of the old one brought up many conflicting questions, and heated decisions. However, it was decided that at the next meeting of the Board the subject of renovation or practical demolition will come to final grips among the members. On March 28th, Ann E. Cooper announced that she would be a candidate of the Democratic Party for election as a Township Committeeman.

The Township Committee set the new tax rate at this meeting on April 4th at 4.10.

The pros and cons of rehabilitation or destruction of the Junior High School went on for some time. The Millburn-Short Hills Item came out in favor of repairing and restoring the present building. The editor of the Millburn Short Hills Item proposed the question?whether the renovation of a 53-year old building, which had been well built of sturdy material, could be renovated and modernized, or should the building be razed and replaced at a cost of at least 4.65 million dollars? The Item opposed razing instead of repairing, as demeaning to the Township. In May, voters turned out and the plan to raze was defeated by a 2-1/4 to 1 vote. Voters turned out in relatively large numbers. The sides on which they stood became quickly obvious.



The Township Committee honored Dr. Charles King on his retirement from the school system. A placque presented to him bore a resolution testifying to his many years of leadership, his devoted service to the Millburn schools, and to his advice and counsel rendered the Board of Education.

William B. O'Brien, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert O'Brien of 62 Stewart Road, was instrumental in delivering a salmon harvest into Boston. Mr. O'Brien was a pioneer in establishing a first Eastern coast salmon hatchery, at Wiscasset, Maine, which received State License #1, for Salmon Culture in 1973. More than 100,000 salmon eggs were brought from a salmon hatchery in Oregon, and finally 1,000 12-inch long salmon were produced, the first mariculture crop of its kind to be raised in New England. The first were delivered to the Boston Market on May 22nd. Mr. O'Brien is a graduate of Pingry and of the University of Maine, and is also a deepsea diver. He served in the Marine Corps from 1964 to 1966, and cooperated with the University of New Hampshire Immunology Department for the prevention of Vibrio, a disease common among certain kinds of salmon. The vaccine cuts losses from 5% a week to less than 1/4 of 1% a day.

Taylor Park was 50 years old today (May 30th). Mrs. John Taylor on May 30, 1924, turned over the tract to the Township. On its first day the only building was a small wooden structure used by the Girl Scouts. 10 years later the first stone structure was built. In May, 1971, a fire almost destroyed the Recreation House, leaving only the exterior walls. In April, 1973, the new building was dedicated.

The Wiss clock, built in 1906, by Seth Thomas, the first ever made by that firm, was moved from Newark to the Short Hills Mall and placed in its site there near the Wiss Store, and rededicated. It was electrified in 1930.

Estill I. Green, Executive Vice President of Bell Laboratories, who had been Chairman of the Millburn Township Environmental Committee, died on June 24, 1974. He had been instrumental in founding and developing the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum. He was a botanist and an author of a pamphlet on "Orchids". Among his many major roles in his employment with the telephone company, was his work with the co-axial system of transmission, a crucial part of the Bell System. He made many new contributions to developments of transmission systems, radar system, and under his direct supervision some 250 designs of radar test gear were developed. He was Executive Vice President of Systems Engineering; director of many industries for the advancement of Science, and made many contributions to the War effort.

On July 5th the Rev. Ronald W. Johnson came here to assume duties as Pastor of the Wyoming Presbyterian Church on September 1st.

August 1st ? 66,880 pounds of paper were picked up last week in the waste paper collection bringing the entire collection to 104,880 pounds for July.

The first report of Millburn Township bus service to the Mall, White Oak Ridge Park, and the swimming pool indicated about 300 passengers which was less than capacity. However, it was decided to continue the service.

August 15th ? a Bean stalk grows 24 feet high and still growing. Grower is John Arsi of 104 Cypress Street. He claims no witchcraft, no special fertilizer, and also boasts of a 16-inch bean. He also claims he has no idea of how it all happened.

The hero of the Millburn Police Department that year was the dog "Timber", led or escorted by Detective James Lepore, making a daylight reconnaissance of the Fox Hill Reservation. With Timber leading by a nose they discovered their quarry? 3 to 6 feet high marijuana plants, equal to a harvest of at least 2 pounds of product. But cultivation was never carried out beyond that point.

On September 5th heavy rain brought flood to the South Mountain area once again. Firemen responded to more than 18 calls to pump out cellars in the South Mountain area, and the Loop area. The water was at least hip deep on Glen Avenue, Mohawk Road, Benson Court and other locations. The Millburn Avenue bridge over the Rahway River was closed to traffic at 7 p.m.

On September 12th the architect for the proposed new library was released, and he was replaced by Winthrop Jones.

Kathy Keenan, 14 years old, received on September 19th from Superintendent George H. Bauer, the First Annual Merit Award for activities during the summer term in the Recreation Department. The Award will go each year to the person who displays outstanding dedication to the Recreation Program.

October 3d ? At a meeting 200 people voted "no" to the Park Plan Hearing on the development of Old Short Hills Park with reference to the 50-acre tract.

October 21st ? John Murray, after 16 years of directing traffic at Essex and Main Streets said that he has only one regret? "I wish I had been here 30 years before I arrived". He came here when Millburn Avenue was a dirt road with trolley tracks. A coal yard stood at the corner of Essex and Main Streets. A junk yard occupied the space now holding the Township Hall. Mr. Murray's favorite hobby is collecting books on American History, and of New Jersey. He also collects maps, books on Morris County and surrounding communities; and Civil War weapons. He is also interested in fife and drum music, and served for years as Drum Major for St. Ann's Drum and Bugle Corps of Newark.

On December 31st it was announced that Hon. C. Thomas Thomas will remain in the Township Government as Mayor; also William G. Ohaus as Vice Chairman in charge of Public Property, Lights and Grounds; Alex B. Lyon, Jr., in charge of Public Works, and Mrs. Anne Cooper, Fire Department Chairman.

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## **CHAPTER XXI.**

### **1958-1976**

#### **1975**

Ann Cooper, the first woman and the first Democrat to be elected to serve on the Township Committee, took her place on the Committee on January 1, 1975. With her, were Mayor C. Thomas Thomas, Chairman, William G. Ohaus, Vice Chairman; Alexander B. Lyon, Jr. and Donald Sambrook.

In January, the Prudential Insurance Company began seeking zoning variance for the construction of three 12-story condominiums to be erected on Kennedy Parkway. In March a community-wide meeting on the Prudential plan was held, and it was found that the audience generally opposed the plan. However, in May the Prudential Insurance Co. requested "no action" by the Township Committee on the proposed apartments on Kennedy Parkway; the matter to rest while a complete restudy of the project is carefully made.

The new Library property is prepared for construction, but the start was ordered delayed by the Court decision, giving holders of deeds restrictions, 100 days to prepare hearing of a suit.

A contest for three Board of Education seats is assured this year as Joseph Spector joins Edward G. Kinal, Samuel Schwartzstein, and S. Gilmer Towell in seeking election.

Franklin B. Lincoln, Jr., a senior partner in a New York law firm, was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Colgate University.

Dorothy Tighe, after almost 30 years with the Township Recreation Department, decided to retire from her position there. George H. Bauer, Superintendent of Recreation, was named the 1975 recipient of the Citizenship Award of the Millburn Short Hills B'nai Brith Lodge.

Citizens in favor of keeping Washington School open, filed a suit versus the Board of Education of Millburn, in an attempt to reverse the decision to close the school this year. The complaint was filed with the New Jersey Commissioner of Education.

The Board of Education adopted a budget of \$9.2 million dollars for the 1975-6 school year.

The Wrestling Team of Millburn High School won the 14th District Wrestling



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Championship for the seventh year in a row.

The Township Committee adopted a municipal budget of \$6.3 million dollars reflecting a 12% increase in local costs.

Messrs. Schwartzstein, Towell, and Spector won seats on the Board of Education as the school budget passed by 22 votes.

Dr. A. Leo Kahn died in March. He was a familiar figure in the Township and participated in many efforts to help the disadvantaged and to entertain disabled veterans. His life was particularly dedicated to veterans who needed help.

Eleanor Barbash was elected President of the Board of Education.

Mayor C. Thomas Thomas and William G. Ohaus announced that they would not seek re-election to their offices with the Township.

"Procrastination" was the word used by the Millburn-Short Hills Tenants Association in criticizing the Advisory Board for its "unexplained delay in settling problems between them."

In May, Dr. Georgiana A. Lynn of Elm Street was named Dean of the School of Education of Kean College.

The Superior Court of New Jersey held that the Board of Education had the right to close the Washington School as a public elementary school, and to lease it to the State.

Frederick E. Rathgraber of Oxford Drive was elected to the Board of Governors of the American National Red Cross.

The Planning Board voted to favor the rezoning of the Kennedy Parkway tract to permit multi-family residential use, with restrictions as to height and number of apartments. The Prudential Insurance Co. had sought to change the zoning to permit the building of condominiums.

As a result of the primary election in June, the Republican candidates for Township Committee will be Maureen B. Ogden and Edward J. Handler, III. Independents E. Garfield Gifford, Barry Yeskel, and William J. Ivy, were also competing for the two seats, as well as Democrat John P. Fitzgerald.

In order to study the future of the Junior High School a 13-member Citizens Advisory Committee was appointed.

Two free shuttle buses again went into operation, resuming service suspended last Fall.

The Prudential Insurance Co. requested "no action" by the Township Committee covering the subject of proposed apartments on Kennedy Parkway, until a complete new study of the project could be made. The suit by Glen Avenue residents to bar construction of a library on Glen Avenue was dismissed by the Superior Court.

Dr. Victor A. Mirelman was appointed Rabbi of B'nai Israel Congregation to succeed Rabbi Melvin J. Glatt.

On July 17th, Frank Carrington, producer and founder of the Paper Mill Playhouse died. The long dream of Mr. Carrington and of his associate, Miss Antoinette Scudder, now also deceased, had built one of the great New Jersey Cultural Centers, with its contributions to the Township as well as to the State of New Jersey. The dirty old paper mill, almost moribund in the late depression years, was turned into a very attractive building, without destroying the original structure. The Paper Mill presented at modest prices, original plays, classics, old and new productions. In short, the Millburn Paper Mill Playhouse has become not only one of the State's Cultural Centers, with a national reputation, but a source of pride and pleasure to Millburn.

With the death of Frank Carrington, Millburn Township had lost during recent years, three of its loyal citizens, Miss Cora Hartshorn, Edward J. Lonergan and Mr. Carrington.

Miss Cora was one of Millburn's great benefactors. Her mother, Mrs. Stewart Hartshorn, had founded the Neighborhood House and her daughter assisted her in some of its early work. Later and almost continuously Miss Cora's generosity and work helped many philanthropic organizations to get a good start. One knew exactly where Miss Cora stood on most questions and on which side she would be voting. Her last and probably her biggest benefaction extended to Millburn was the gift of the Arboretum and the land surrounding it. In her young adulthood, before 1920, she had worked strenuously with other friends in Millburn to bring about votes for women, and she did not forsake the movement.

Edward Lonergan, or "Ed" as he was mostly called, was another citizen who loved Millburn, and he worked vigorously for its welfare. He kept the two-party system alive for many years. He was "Mr. Democrat". He had held office on the Essex County Board of Freeholders, and was Millburn Postmaster; was Township Intelligence Officer during World War I, and held other offices.

Donald Sambrook announced that he will resign from the Township Committee

by the end of the year, without naming a specific date. His resignation before September 29th would mean that an elected official would fill the post; but after that, the Committee would appoint someone to the vacancy.

The resignation of Mr. Sambrook four days after date calling for election of a new member, stirred debate at the Committee meeting. John L. Dugan, Jr. of Hillside Avenue was named to the Township Committee to fill Mr. Sambrook's place.

Police Chief, W. Paul Tighe, reported a decrease of 11.1% in serious crime for the first half of the year as against first half of 1974.

Rev. William C. Lincoln, Pastor of the First Baptist Church for eight years, died at the end of October, at age of 49 years.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the new Library on Glen Avenue was held at the end of October.

In November, about 59% of the eligible voters voted at the election. Maureen Ogden and Edward J. Handler, III, were elected to the Township Committee.

Serena May Peritti of White Oak Ridge Road was nominated as the first woman to be selected for a Federal Judicial post in New Jersey. She would sit in Newark and as U.S. Magistrate.

It was ordered by the Township Committee that a review be held of the Old Short Hills Park parking lot construction by the municipality's Environmental Design Review Board.

United States Senator, Clifford Case, led all candidates on the voting machines here to serve another term in the U.S. Senate.

24 residents were appointed to a Citizens Budget Advisory Committee headed by Henry A. Peer, former Essex County Treasurer.

Citizens Advisory Committee recommended that the Junior High School be renovated at a tentative cost of three million dollars.

The latest study puts the South Mountain Area Flood Control Project at a cost of \$3,473,400.00.

Joseph Sudy of 35 Walnut Street was appointed to the Board of Recreation Commissioners by Mayor Thomas. Mr. Sudy will serve in place of Joseph Mulcahy who has resigned. Mayor Thomas noted that Mr. Sudy was well-

equipped by his background and education to serve in the position. At this time he was President of the Millburn-Short Hills Chamber of Commerce; has been President of the Short Hills Lodge of B'nai Brith; and has long been associated actively with the local Rotary and South Mountain Civic Association.

Mr. Sudy was a former semi-pro baseball player; a member of New York University Swimming Team, and has served as manager of the university's basketball and baseball teams. He served in the Second World War in the U.S. Navy and attained the rank of lieutenant commander.

At that last meeting of the year, Mayor Thomas also appointed Putnam Crafts as Chairman of the Township's delegation which attends budget meetings conducted by the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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## **CHAPTER XXI.**

**1958-1976**

### ***1976 BICENTENNIAL***

Township Committee: Alexander B. Lyon, Chairman; Maureen B. Ogden, Vice Chairman, Ann Cooper, John L. Dugan, Jr., Edward J. Handler, III. Township Clerk: John W. Pritchard.

The Millburn Township Bicentennial celebration began with the appointment of the Bicentennial Committee by the Millburn Township Committee on December 11, 1973.

Appointed to begin the business of the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the United States were:

Professor Gerhard O. W. Mueller, Chairman, and his Committee: George H. Bauer, Frank Carrington, Harvey Kahn, Marian K. Meisner, Police Chief W. Paul Tighe, Jr., Malcolm R. Warnock, Walter H. White, Hon. Alexander Lyons, Jr., who is a member of the Township Committee, and ex-officio, Hon. Mayor C. Thomas Thomas.

As work increased, additional citizens were added to the Committee, including Mr. William M. Barr, who later became the new Chairman when Professor Mueller resigned. Others appointed were Daniel J. Hussey, E. Garfield Gifford, Gloria Patrizzio, James Milton, Eleanor Barbash, Frances Land, Frances Maris, Richard A. Holmes, Daniel D. McMullen, and Schuyler Harrison.

Township organizations sent representatives to various meetings as required. The work of the Committee was eventually divided among three broad goals, Heritage, Festival, and Horizons.

One of the first projects was the refurbishing of the three dioramas built in 1970, under the auspices of the Millburn Township Cultural Heritage Committee of which Frank Carrington was Chairman. The Dioramas built by volunteers on tables in a workroom provided by the Paper Mill Playhouse, were under the supervision of Professor Gerhard O. W. Mueller who set up the stories for the three scenes from Millburn's historic past.

Represented were the scene at Washington Rock on June 7, 1780, when General Washington met with his aides to watch the skirmish at Connecticut Farms (Union); the encounter at Littell's bridge (now Vauxhall Bridge) on June 23, 1780, the first on Millburn soil; and the third, the engagement between British, Hessian and American forces at First Bridge (Morris Turnpike, at



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Springfield) on the same day.

Other activities planned and presented were a Bicentennial moving picture ("Profile '76"), sponsored by the Rotary Club at the High School on September 14, 1975; a Bicentennial Homecoming Football game on October 25, 1975, including special ceremonies and a band program under the direction of the Bicentennial Committee, with the leadership of Robert Pearson, Paul Beck, James Gharrett, Robert E. Faddis, and Frank F. Foche.

On April 17, 1976, a red oak tree was planted in Taylor Park in commemoration of the Bicentennial. The planting ceremony was held at 11:30 a.m. in the presence of the Bicentennial Committee, Township officials, and representatives from churches, Township organizations, Millburn Township officials, and Township residents. The program was short, but appropriate. Welcome was extended by William M. Barr, new Chairman of the Bicentennial Committee, and by Gloria Patrizzio, Chairman of the Tree Committee; members of Guy Bosworth Post of the American Legion presented colors; the Millburn Short Hills Girl Scouts, led by Beverly O'Daniel, recited the Pledge of Allegiance; and representatives of Girl Scout Troop #401 sang "America the Beautiful."

The Invocation was pronounced by the Most Rev. John J. Dougherty, Pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church, and the Benediction was given by Rev. Donald W. Johnson, Minister of Wyoming Presbyterian Church.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the Liberty Tree Planting Ceremony was held with all participants present adding a shovel of the soil to go around the tree.

The first big event of the Bicentennial Year was held on January 9th and 10th in the Senior High School Auditorium, "Our Bicentennial Jubilee", a Musical Salute to the Nation's 200th Anniversary, presented by the Millburn-Short Hills Fourth of July Committee, Inc.

Don Monigle was Producer and Director, assisted by John Gibson, Co-producer; Patti Donovan, Special Assistant; Bob J. Murray, Musical Director; Choreographers, Ralph and Sylvia Evans; Skits, Bill McCormack and John Rogers; Pianist-Arranger, Grace Thompson; Orchestra, Jeff Kincaid; Stage Managers, John Lontz, William V. White, Jr., Eugene Kirk, Alfred W. Harris, Walter White, and Cynthia Ralston. Cynthia Ralston also headed the Scenery Committee and Set Design; James white was in charge of Props, and Eileen Lentz, Costumes. Grove Thompson and Edward Homer provided Lighting and Jeff Yorkins and his Committee of five were Technical Consultants from the High School Theatrical Department.

Curt Kline and Marte Dunwood supervised Sound and Sound Effects, and the Curtain was in the hands of William H. White. Marcie Head supervised Makeup, and Sally Tully, Programs. George Hoare and Bruce Hill were in charge of Ticket Sales and Alfred W. Harris and Bob Mullock, Chairmen of Ushers Committee. Marion Wilcox and Tom Kanatas headed Photography.

The program, diversified, swiftmoving and well balanced presented music, good humor, patriotic overtones, and enough nostalgia to evoke memories.

All ages appeared in the cast, including very young children, teenagers, young adults and mature men and women, mostly amateur, a few professional.

The local Millburn Historical Society showed "Our Town" on film covering Millburn History in pictures and narrative.

A Color Guard was present from the Millburn Police Department and Gloria Patrizzio sang "The Star Spangled Banner", and headed the Chorus which sang excerpts from "Oklahoma". The Overture, a patriotic medley, was given by the Jeff Kincaid Orchestra.

A group of young children, under the direction of Sister Edwina Gaiser from St. Rose of Lima School, presented "Godspell" selections. A total of 281 names appears on the program and many of those names do not appear more than once.

Probably the most unusual and beautiful of the features of the Celebration was the Ecumenical Interfaith Service held in Temple B'nai Jeshurun, on Thursday evening, July 1st, sponsored by the Millburn Township Fourth of July Committee, Inc. The observance opened with an organ prelude "Processional" played by Warren Brown, Temple Organist, followed by a Presentation of Colors by a three-member group of the New Jersey Colonial Institute. Township Mayor, Hon. Alexander B. Lyon, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance; and the Choir Ensemble, composed of members from all Township Houses of worship, sang "My Country 'tis of Thee." Rev. George R. MacCray of Christ Church, Short Hills, offered the opening prayer, followed by "Our Freedom Proclaimed in Scripture" said by Rev. Ronald W. Johnson of Wyoming Presbyterian Church. Mozart's "Gloria" was sung by the extended choir, after which Rabbi Barry DeWitt Greene of Temple B'nai Jeshurun led a responsive reading, "Land of Liberty".

A prayer was offered by Rev. Kent Estler of Community Congregational Church, and an anthem "Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land" was sung by the Choir Ensemble and soloists, Cantor Norman Summers, Louise Fuller, and Maria Busto.

New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne was scheduled to be present and address the Assembly, but a critical meeting of the New Jersey Legislature made it impossible for him to leave Trenton. His place was taken by Allen Sagner. "Ballad for Americans" was sung by Cantor Summers, and a "Word of Welcome" was extended by Rabbi Ely E. Pilchik, who then introduced his Excellency, John J. Dougherty, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, who delivered the Bicentennial Message.

The closing hymn "America the Beautiful" was sung by the entire audience assembled, and the Choirs, after which Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Charles E. Boyer, Pastor of Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of Millburn.

The Recessional was played by organist, Warren Brown, and led by Choir Director Richard Glassner.

Parade Night was Friday, July 2nd starting at 6:30 p.m., with George Bauer as its Grand Marshall. Mr. Bauer had been a member of the Fourth of July Committee since its beginning 40 years ago. Mr. Bauer has held various offices, including President, and has performed every job required by the Committee. The Parade was divided into eight divisions with six or more groups in each Division. Participating in the parade were bands, clowns, antique fire apparatus, motor cars of all vintages, Millburn Township Girl, Boy, and Cub Scouts; also Millburn Police and Fire Departments, fraternal and patriotic organizations of Millburn and surrounding communities.

Antique bicycles of the "Wheelman" were ridden in the parade and marching with them were representatives from the National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, U. S. Navy, and U.S. Marines.

Miss Nancy Craig, Miss New Jersey of 1976, rode and the White Oak Ridge Chapel had a float, "Freedom of Religion". The "Santa Maria" was the theme of the Casa Columbo Civic Association and its float. The Parade had in all 84 separate entries.

On July 3d, Independence Day this year, was the final day of the Celebration. The program began with the National Anthem sung by the Fourth of July President this year, George R. Medley, following which the annual Children's Parade representing Township Playgrounds, was led again by Police Officer Fred Piper. The children were costumed and competed for prizes. The Parade was led by Officer Fred Pieper twice around the field. Prizes were won by Slayton, Short Hills, and Taylor Park Playground Groups selected by Judges Frances Maris, Mariam K. Meisner, and Rev. Ronald W. Johnson.

An 8-act circus then followed presenting acrobats, animal acts including chimps and elephants, a highwire act, and various comedy acts.

In the afternoon, a Country Fair was held in Taylor Park in which 45 Township groups were represented with a wide variety of displays. The three dioramas were on display inside the Recreation House.

Exhibited in the Park was a large original oil painting by Schuyler Harrison, depicting the artist's dream of the Springfield-Millburn landscape in 1780, from the viewpoint of "across the street from the old Springfield Church" and looking to where Millburn would now appear, and the hills behind it, including the one containing the area which would now be known as "Washington Rock." The sunny day which began early in the morning and was pronounced "beautiful" disappeared temporarily in the afternoon, and brought about a heavy downpour which sent people, and there was a record crowd, scurrying and trying to get as many perishable articles as possible out of the Park and into the Recreation House. The storm was too sudden to preserve them all, and many of the lovely perishable things could not be saved. However, the storm did not last long and a fine clearing came in time to view again many of the Park's attractions, and to go on with the night's program.

Alfred W. Harris was Master of Ceremonies for all events of the day, and this year's President, George Medley, presided at the evening's offerings. Mr. Medley also sang the National Anthem in the evening. The Pledge of Allegiance was led this year by Miss Cathy Ann Finan, a High School honor student; the invocation was pronounced by Rev. Ronald W. Johnson; and Harry Silverstein, a Millburn attorney, was presented with the Fourth of July Committee Citation to honor his affiliation with the Committee since the beginning.

The beautiful night which arrived in time for the start of the Program, made a dramatic backdrop for the fireworks which had been carefully and especially selected for this Bicentennial Program. A repetition of the big highwire act presented in the morning, was repeated before the fireworks in the evening and the great pyrotechnic display was a dramatic end to Millburn's celebration of the Bicentennial.

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## HISTORY OF MILLBURN HIGH SCHOOL

In September, 1892, Millburn's first high school began instructing the youth of the community in a small frame schoolhouse located on Old Short Hills Road, about a half mile from Millburn center.

When the Hobart Avenue School building was completed in 1898, the students in the high school were allocated a few rooms on the second floor of that building. For twenty-four years high school classes were conducted in these small quarters, for it wasn't until 1920 that the township authorized the purchase of the six acres of land on which the present high school building now stands.

Building operations were begun in 1921, and by September, 1922, the new high school building consisting of twelve classrooms and a gymnasium was ready for use. As there was no auditorium in this new structure, the gymnasium was used for assemblies and for all school social functions. The front entrance .as considered out of bounds for the students, who .ere restricted to the north and south entrances of the building, the boys using the south end and the girls, Me north encl.

At that time be total enrollment of the high school was one hundred ninety-two, with the majority of the students in the lower grades?the senior students in the three top grades, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth, numbering only thirty-three.

Eight years later, the population of Millburn had increased to such an extent that the building was again outgrown. Many more classrooms, an auditorium, a cafeteria, a library, a second gymnasium and an arts area were therefore added in 1930.


Still further growth of the community necessitated another addition, and in 1938 four more classrooms and a boys' locker room were built. With these new additions the building could accommodate eight hundred fifty students.

At the present time Millburn High School has an enrollment approaching eleven hundred students. The facilities are consequently overcrowded to the point that six of the seven seventh-grade home rooms are housed in the Washington School, and all seventh-grade students are receiving classroom instruction there.

The Board of Education is currently proceeding with plans to build a new senior high school to accommodate seven hundred students on a site adjacent to the athletic field on Millburn Avenue. It is hoped that the new structure will be ready for occupancy by September 1955, at which time the present building



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will become a junior high school.